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ALLEGIANCES and More!

[image]

SHADOWCLAN

LEADER Ashstar— Gray she-cat with blue eyes

DEPUTY Swiftfang— Black tom with yellow eyes

MEDICINE CAT Cloudheart— White she-cat with blue eyes

WARRIORS Mousetuft— Pale brown she-cat
Icewhisker— White she-cat
Fernpool— Black-and-gray she-cat
Applebranch— Ginger tom
Smokefur— Dark gray she-cat
Blacktail— Black tom
Daisybloom— Gray-and-white tabby she-cat with one blind eye
Ivyleaf— Ginger she-cat
Marshshade— Gray tom
Tigerstripe— Brown tabby tom
Thornpelt— Gray-and-white tom

QUEENS Graycloud— Gray she-cat with blue eyes; mother to Tigerstripe's kits: Bearkit (brown tom-kit with green eyes) and Sagekit (silver tabby she-kit with blue eyes)
Moonheart— Gray tabby she-cat; mother to Thornpelt's kits: Toadkit (gray tom), Frostkit (white tom), and Nettlekit (gray tabby she-kit)
Wolfclaw— Gray tabby she-cat; expecting Swiftfang's kits

ELDERS N/A

THUNDERCLAN

LEADER Briarstar— Gray tabby tom

DEPUTY Thistleseed— Golden-brown tabby she-cat

MEDICINE CAT Goldenfeather— Ginger-and-white she-cat

WARRIORS Oakbranch— Dark cream tom
Paledawn— Cream she-cat
Lionpounce— Ginger tom
Lilypetal— White she-cat
Sparrowfeather— Brown tom
Russetpelt— Ginger she-cat
Rosethorn— Brown-and-white she-cat
Waspclaw— Pale gray tabby tom
Lightingstrike— Ginger tom
Branchfall— Brown tom
Snowyleaf— Brown-and-white she-cat

QUEENS Violetmoon— Cream she-cat; mother to Sparrowfeather's kits: Eaglekit (brown tom-kit) and Aspenkit (cream she-kit)

ELDERS Dappledpelt— Tortoiseshell-and-white she-cat
Finchflight— Gray tom

WINDCLAN

LEADER Mudstar— Brown tom with hazel eyes

DEPUTY Snakefang— Gray tabby tom

MEDICINE CATS Nectarmist— Pale ginger she-cat
Berrybush— Gray tabby tom

WARRIORS Whitebird— White she-cat
Dovewhisper— Gray she-cat
Sunflame— Ginger tom
Stagdust— Brown tabby tom

Hazelclaw— Tortoiseshell she-cat
Yelloweyes— Black she-cat
APPRENTICE, Deerpaw (Brown she-cat)
Rabbitear— Pale brown tom
Quickstep— Gray tabby tom
Ravencall— Black tom
APPRENTICE, Dogpaw (Brown tabby tom)
Petalstorm— Tortoiseshell she-cat
Stonefall— Gray tom
Meadowbreeze— Brown she-cat
Breezewhisker— Tortoiseshell she-cat

QUEENS N/A

ELDERS Stormwind— Dark gray tom
Weedwhisker— Brown tom

RIVERCLAN

LEADER Cloverstar— Brown tom

DEPUTY Minnowfur— Silver tabby she-cat

MEDICINE CAT Blizzardsnow— White tom

WARRIORS Reedstorm- Brown tabby tom
Duskshadow— Black-and-white she-cat
Moonfeather- White she-cat with black splotches
Cloverbush- Brown tom
Primrosefrost— Pale brown tabby she-cat
Minnowfur— Silver tabby she-cat
Darkcloud- Black tom
Puddlesplash— Brown-and-white tom
Shellclaw— Brown she-cat
Floodstream— Gray tabby tom
Shadebush— Black she-cat

QUEENS Doestep— Black-and-white she-cat; mother to Cloverstar's kits: Stonekit (Brown tom-kit) and Rainkit (Black-and-white she-kit)

ELDERS Ripplecreek- Gray tabby tom
Sweetberry- Tortoiseshell she-cat
Sandfern- Pale ginger tom

SKYCLAN

LEADER Foxstar— Golden-brown tom

DEPUTY Badgerscar— Black-and-white tom

MEDICINE CAT Littlepoppy— Golden-brown tabby she-cat
APPRENTICE, Maplepaw (ginger-and-white tom)

WARRIORS Birchleaf— Brown-and-white she-cat
Lightningclaw— Dark brown tom
Tawnytuft— Ginger-and-white she-cat
Eaglefeather— Brown tabby tom
Blossomsnow— Gray-and-white she-cat
APPRENTICE, Nightpaw (black tom)
Echowhisper— Gray she-cat
Blossomsnow— Gray-and-white she-cat
Strikeclaw— Black-and-white tom
Robinflight— Dark ginger she-cat
Crowshadow— Black she-cat
Bristlefur— Ginger she-cat
Jaywing— Gray tom

QUEENS Bristlefur— Ginger she-cat; expecting Strikeclaw's kits

ELDERS Brightflame— Ginger-and-white tom
Twigshade— Black tom

CATS OUTSIDE THE CLANS
Misty— Gray she-kit with green eyes

WARRIOR CODE
Defend your Clan, even with your life. You may have friendships with cats from other Clans, but your loyalty must remain to your

Clan, as one day you may meet them in battle.
Do not hunt or trespass on another Clan's territory.
Elders, queens, and kits must be fed before apprentices and warriors. Unless they have permission, apprentices may not eat until they have hunted to feed the elders. If any warrior or apprentice is sick or injured, they may eat while the elders, queens, and kits are eating.
Prey is killed only to be eaten. Give thanks to StarClan for its life.
A kit must be at least six moons old to become an apprentice.
Newly appointed warriors will keep a silent vigil for one night after receiving their warrior name.
A cat cannot be made deputy without having mentored at least one apprentice.
The deputy will become Clan leader when the leader dies, retires or is exiled.
After the death or retirement of the deputy, the new deputy must be chosen before moonhigh.
A Gathering of all four Clans is held at the full moon during a truce that lasts for the night. There shall be no fighting among Clans at this time.
Boundaries must be checked and marked daily. Challenge all trespassing cats.
No warrior can neglect a kit in pain or danger, even if the kit is from a different Clan.
The word of the Clan leader is the warrior code.
An honorable warrior does not need to kill other cats to win their battles, unless they are outside the warrior code or if it is necessary for self-defense.
A warrior rejects the soft life of a kittypet.
Each Clan has the right to be proud and independent, but in times of trouble they must forget their boundaries and fight side by side to protect the four. Each Clan must help the others so that no Clan will fall.

Medicine Cat Code

A medicine cat may not fall in love or take a mate.
A medicine cat may not have kits.
A medicine cat may only retire when their apprentice is ready to take their place.
A medicine cat shares dreams with only StarClan.

A medicine cat may only discuss dreams, prophecies, etc. with their leader or other medicine cats at the monthly meeting; dreams of an otherwise prophetic nature should not be disclosed to any outside parties, or any other cats in the Clan.

Map

Thoughts? Any predictions?

Prologue

Cloudheart slowly drifts off to sleep, not expecting anything special to happen in her dreams. However, the opens her eyes to see that she is in StarClan. She is happy to see Addertooth approach her.

"Addertooth! It's nice to see you again." Cloudheart meows happily. The brown tom then shushes the small medicine cat.

"I have something very important to share with you." Addertooth meows, looking down at her.

"What is it?" Cloudheart then asks, tilting her head a little.

"Keep this in mind, because it can determine either the survival or the downfall of the clans." Addertooth notes. Cloudheart nods. She is a bit excited though because this is her first time receiving something important from StarClan.

"Two small kits will grow into very strong cats, work together, and save all five clans from eventual doom." Addertooth meows. "Now, I should get going. Goodbye, Cloudheart." He meows. Then, Cloudheart wakes up from her dream. It is still dark outside, as she could see outside of the medicine cat den.

I need to tell Ashstar about this, as soon as possible. Cloudheart thinks. *Maybe the two kits the prophecy is talking about are Graycloud's kits? Bearkit and Sagekit?* Cloudheart wonders. *Either way, I still need to make sure Ashstar knows.* She thinks, getting up out of her nest. She takes a few minutes to stretch and yawn before heading out of the medicine cat den.

Once she exits the den, she heads over to the leader den, hoping she wouldn't have to wake up her leader. She peeks inside the den and luckily for her, Ashstar is awake.

"Oh, you're awake." Cloudheart meows.

"I haven't been able to fall asleep yet. I guess I'm still bothered by what Foxstar did at the past gathering." Ashstar meows.

The newly named leader of SkyClan is not the ideal cat for a leader. He is rude, demanding, and wants complete control. He made a rude remark to Ashstar at the last gathering, and it has been bothering Ashstar since.

"Get over it, Foxstar is all meow no bite." Cloudheart meows, growling a little at the thought of the aggressive leader. "Anyways, I received a message from StarClan in a dream. That's what I came here to tell you." She informs her leader.

"Oh.. what was the message?" Ashstar asks the small white-furred medicine cat.

"Addertooth told me that two small kits will grow into very strong warriors, work together, and save all five clans from eventual doom." Cloudheart meows. "I thought prophecies weren't supposed to be this clear, but we know everything except who the two small kits are." She meows.

"Do you think it's Bearkit and Sagekit?" Ashstar asks Cloudheart.

"That's what I'm thinking, but we won't know for sure until it actually happens." Cloudheart replies. "They could be any two kits, but they are the first two that came to my mind since they are two littermates." She meows.

"I guess we'll have to wait and see what happens." Ashstar replies.

"Yep." Cloudheart replies with a nod. "It was nice talking with you, Ashstar. Try to get some sleep, okay? If you need anything you can come to me." She meows.

"Thank you, Cloudheart. I think I might sleep okay now." Ashstar replies. Cloudheart then leaves the leader's den and heads back to the medicine cat den. She curls back up in her nest and falls back asleep.

Chapter 1

A small kit runs around in a frenzy. She meows very loudly out of fear.

"Mama!" The kit cries, but there is no response.

The kit is a kittypet named Misty. Her housefolk took her mother and her littermates with them as they stay near the lake this greenleaf. However, she ran off into the forest out of curiousity all alone and got completely lost. She has no idea how to get back to her housefolk. Her blue eyes are wide, terrified of what else might be in the forest. She then lays down and hides behind a tree, frightened by every small noise she hears.

"We don't have to worry much about RiverClan. They usually don't threaten the borders. SkyClan is a totally different story though. They've caused issues for a while." Misty hears a cat meow. She did not recognize the voice at all. She crouches down low, hiding behind the tree. She is terrified of these cats. She shakes out of fear and her fur is standing up. She has always been told stories about the cats that live by the lake and that they eat kittens. Her tiny heart beats fast once the cats come right towards her. She deeply hopes she isn't noticed by the cats.

"Look! There's a little kit." Misty hears a cat meow.

Oh no... they're gonna eat me! Misty thinks, but she continues to stay completely still, still hoping the other cats won't see her.

"Awww, poor thing. It looks so scared.." Misty hears another cat meow. She could hear the cats' footsteps around her as they gathered around her.

"Hello, little kit. What's your name and why are you here?" She hears another cat ask her. She is hesitant to answer, but she does,

afraid that they will eat her if she doesn't explain herself.

"M-My name is Misty." Misty mews, fear in her voice. "I'm lost. I don't know where my housefolk and my mama are." She then explains.

"Aww. She's so cute." Misty hears a cat say. "Should we take her in? We shouldn't leave her here alone. It's dangerous." The cat then asks the others.

"No. She's a kittypet. Once a kittypet, always a kittypet." Another cat replies.

"But she's just a kit." Another cat then meows. "Another animal can easily use her as prey." The cat meows.

"And she's so cute!" Another cat then adds.

"So? She isn't a part of ShadowClan. We shouldn't care about her safety. We don't need another mouth to feed." A cat meows.

"You are both outnumbered, Blacktail and Ivyleaf." A cat then meows. "The majority of us thinks we should take her back to camp and see what Ashstar thinks, so that's what we're going to do."

"Fine. Who is taking her to camp?" A cat asks.

"I will." Misty hears a tom respond.

"Okay. We will continue the patrol." A cat then meows.

"Good luck." The tom replies. Misty's heart sinks out of fear once she is lifted off the ground by her scruff. She looks up at the tom. He is is a ginger tom. Misty closes her eyes as the tom carries her, accepting her fate.

What is going on? Misty thinks. *Where is this cat taking me?* She thinks. *I'm in big trouble... who is Ashstar?*

Chapter 2

Once the ginger tom makes it to ShadowClan's camp, he gently places Misty down on the ground. Misty is in shock by the amount of cats here. She hides behind the ginger tom. The cats begin to ask the tom many questions like 'where did you find that kit?' at the same time.

"Silence!" A voice meows. Then, the cats go silent.

"Applebranch, where did you find this kit?" The cat asks him.

So his name is Applebranch. Misty thinks.

"We found her all alone in the middle of the forest. She ran off from her housefolk and got lost. She told me her name is Misty. We thought it would be a good idea to bring her to camp since she would be in danger if we left her all alone." Applebranch replies. The cat, who seems to be in some sort of leadership, nods.

Then, the cats begin to argue over what to do with Misty. Misty continues to hide behind Applebranch, very confused about what is going on. The cats throw arguments back and forth on whether or not to take the kit in. These arguments are all ones Misty have heard before when the group of cats found her.

"Stop!" The leader-like cat meows again. She then looks over at Applebranch and Misty. "Misty, it's okay. You don't have to hide." She meows. Misty nods and walks out from behind Applebranch, stepping closer to take a better look at the cat. She is a gray she-cat with blue eyes like herself.

"Do you *want* to join ShadowClan?" The cat then asks her. Misty thinks for a moment, then responds.

"Yes." Misty responds with a nod.

I know that if I stay here, I won't be lost and alone anymore. Also, I think I'm starting to trust Applebranch. Misty thinks.

"Then, it's settled. Misty is now a part of ShadowClan." The cat meows. "My name is Ashstar, and I am the leader of ShadowClan. Welcome." She meows. Ashstar approaches Misty and tears her pink collar off with her teeth. Misty was a bit scared she would bite her neck though. A few cheers come from the clan, while some cats stay silent. "From this day on, you will be known as Mistykit. You are one of us now." Ashstar meows. Mistykit can't help but feel a bit of joy.

"We're going to see if any of the queens will take you in, okay?" Applebranch then meows to Mistykit, looking down at her. Mistykit nods, understanding. He picks her up by the scruff again and takes her over to a den. Mistykit gets a happy feeling once she catches the scent of milk when they walk inside of the den. Mistykit takes a moment to look at the cats inside. Mistykit spots a gray cat and two gray tabby cats. The gray cat has two kits that seem to be the same age as Mistykit next to her and one of the gray tabby cats has three smaller kits near her belly. The other gray tabby does not have any kits with her yet. The three cats look over at Mistykit. Their maternal instincts then kick in.

"She's adorable!" One cat meows, purring at the sight of the kitten. The other two cats then agree with her. Applebranch gently puts Mistykit down on the den floor.

"Would any of you like to take her in? Her name is Mistykit. The clan just took her in. She was a kittypet but she got lost in the forest." Applebranch explains.

"I think it would be the best idea for me to take her in. She seems to be around five moons old, which is the same age as my kits." The gray cat then offers.

"Okay then." Applebranch replies. He picks Mistykit up again and carries her over to the cat, placing her down next to her.

"Mistykit, this is Graycloud. She will take care of you from now on. Those are her kits, Bearkit and Sagekit." Applebranch meows,

looking over at the two kits sleeping next to their mother.

"Hello." Graycloud meows, purring.

"H-Hi." Mistykit replies, a bit overwhelmed by the whole situation.

"I will take good care of you and treat you like my own, I promise." Graycloud meows.

"Thank you, Graycloud." Applebranch meows. Then, Mistykit watches as Applebranch leaves the nursery.

I guess this isn't so bad. Mistykit thinks as Graycloud begins to groom her.

Chapter 3

"You can't catch me!" Bearkit meows, dashing around camp.

"Yes I can!" Mistykit replies, chasing after Bearkit. Bearkit squeaks and runs faster, his pads hitting the ground with a lot of force.

Sagekit watches her littermates play from a distance, purring as she watches them.

"Why won't you play with them, Sagekit?" Graycloud asks her smallest kit, giving her a lick on the head.

"I never win, so I don't see the point in it." Sagekit replies, purring more due to the lick. "It's more enjoyable to just watch Mistykit kick Bearkit's tail anyways." She adds.

"The thing is, Sagekit, winning isn't the important part in playing a game." Graycloud replies, turning her head to keep her eyes on her other kits.

"What is it then?" Sagekit then asks, looking up at Graycloud.

"Having fun is the most important part." Graycloud replies.

"Oh, I see." Sagekit replies. "When will Toadkit, Frostkit, and Nettlekit be big enough for me to play with them? I'll probably win against them because they're smaller than me." She meows.

"Not much longer. They're not really as young as you think they are. They just seem younger since they were born weak due to the complications of Moonheart's birth. They should get stronger soon." Graycloud responds, watching Bearkit and Mistykit.

"Oh, I didn't know that." Sagekit replies. Sagekit watches as Mistykit tackles Bearkit to the ground. Bearkit squeals again as he hits the ground. Sagekit purrs in amusement. She then dashes towards her

littermates.

"Look out 'cause I'm joining in!" Sagekit meows, tackling her two littermates at the same time since Mistykit had Bearkit pinned. Mistykit then squeals herself as she is brought to the ground.

I wasn't expecting that! Sagekit is actually participating! Mistykit thinks. Bearkit purrs in amusement.

"Take that, Mistykit!" Bearkit meows. "Sagekit barely even plays and she still took you down!" He claims.

"Says the one who always loses to me!" Mistykit replies. "Ever since I was brought into the clan you have never beat me!" She meows.

"I will beat you once before we become apprentices, I know it!" Bearkit responds.

"You wanna bet?" Mistykit then meows. Sagekit just watches them in amusement.

"Cut it out, you two." Graycloud interrupts, walking over to the three kits. "It's almost time for you three to get back into the nursery anyways." She meows.

"But, Graycloud..!" Mistykit complains. Graycloud shakes her head.

"It will be dark soon." Graycloud replies. "The three of you should get some sleep when the time comes." She adds. "Tomorrow is a big day." Mistykit and Bearkit sigh in unison.

"Yes, Graycloud." They say in unison and then walk back to the nursery together. Sagekit looks up at Graycloud, not moving.

"What do you mean by big day?" Sagekit asks, tilting her head a little.

"I'll tell you three tomorrow." Graycloud replies.

"Are we going to become apprentices?" Sagekit then asks as her and Graycloud begin to walk back to the nursery together.

"You'll see, my dear." Graycloud replies. The cats then enter the nursery together and curl up with each other as Graycloud lays down in her nest. Once it is late out, all four cats have fallen asleep.

Some Information

• This book will be much longer than Addertooth's Story. With my planning, I'm already at chapter 28 and the main characters just became warriors recently. To make this more clear, Addertooth's Story had 30 chapters and focused on Addertooth's entire life.
• So much happens in this book. It's basically an entire Warriors series packed into one book.

Things that happened in between this story and Addertooth's Story
• Sparrowpaw, Beetlenose, Ebonyfrost, Frogleap, and Luckyspirit died from greencough. SkyClan's Honeystar lost her last life by the same cause.
• Graycloud and Thornpelt's existences (Daisybloom and Marshshade's kits)
• As you already know, Wolfclaw is expecting a second litter.
• The beginning of Foxstar's cruel reign

A/N

The plan/outline for the story is *finally complete*! There will be *43 chapters* in this story, so buckle up because this will be a long and wild ride!

Chapter 4

"Let all cats old enough to catch their own prey join here beneath the high branch for a meeting!" Bearkit hears Ashstar's voice call. *Sagekit was right! We are going to become apprentices today!* He assumes at the call for a clan meeting.

"Today, three young kits have reached the age of six moons, and are ready to become apprentices." Ashstar meows.

"It's time for the three of you to become apprentices." Graycloud whispers. "Go on out of the den, and I will follow you. Please make sure you behave in front of your clan." She meows. The three kits nod and then slowly walk out of the nursery and over to where the clan is gathered. Graycloud follows behind them, sitting down with the three kits along with the other cats.

"Bearkit, you have reached the age of six moons, and it is time for you to be apprenticed. From this day on, until you receive your warrior name, you will be known as Bearpaw. Your mentor will be Daisybloom. I hope Daisybloom will pass down all she knows on to you." Ashstar says, her gaze looking down at the brown kit, but then it shifts over to a gray-and-white warrior. "Daisybloom, you are ready to take on your first apprentice. You have received excellent training from Addertooth, and you have shown yourself to be a clever and determined warrior. You will be the mentor of Bearpaw, and I expect you to pass on all you know to him."

Bearpaw walks over to Daisybloom and touches noses with the warrior. The clan cheers. "Bearpaw! Bearpaw!" They meow. Bearpaw hasn't felt this much joy so far in his life.

This is great! I'm an apprentice now and I like my mentor! Bearpaw thinks. *I wonder what happened to her eye though..*

"I will make sure to train you well." Daisybloom meows, purring at

him. Then, Ashstar's gaze changes. Bearpaw watches as it shifts over to Sagekit.

"Sagekit, you have also reached the age of six moons, and it is also time for you to be apprenticed. From this day on, until you receive your warrior name, you will be known as Sagepaw. Your mentor will be Mousetuft. I hope Mousetuft will pass down all she knows on to you." Ashstar says, her gaze shifts over to Mousetuft. "Mousetuft, you are ready to take on another apprentice. You have received excellent training, and you have shown yourself to be a skilled and intelligent warrior. You will be the mentor of Sagepaw, and I expect you to pass on all you know to her."

Bearpaw watches as Sagepaw walks over to Mousetuft. She touches noses with her and the clan cheers. "Sagepaw! Sagepaw!"

"Finally, Mistykit, you have also reached the age of six moons, and it is also time for you to be apprenticed. From this day on, until you receive your warrior name, you will be known as Mistypaw. You chose the life of a warrior over the life of comfort as a kittypet, and we greatly respect that. Your mentor will be Applebranch. I hope Applebranch will pass down all he knows on to you." Ashstar says, her gaze shifts over to the ginger tom, who happens to be her mate. "Applebranch, you are ready to take on another apprentice. You have received excellent training from Frogleap, and you have shown yourself to be a strong and skilled warrior. You will be the mentor of Mistypaw, and I expect you to pass on all you know to her."

Bearpaw watches as Mistypaw dashes over to Applebranch, seemingly happy to have him as her mentor, and they touch noses. "Mistypaw! Mistypaw!" The clan cheers.

"The clan meeting is now dismissed." Ashstar then meows, leaping down from the high branch.

"What now?" Bearpaw asks his new mentor excitedly.

"First, Mousetuft, Applebranch, and I are going to show you three around the territory." Daisybloom replies. Bearpaw can't help but look up at the warrior with admiration as she looks around for

Mousetuft and Applebranch. Daisybloom spots the other two warriors and signals them with her tail. The other two warriors nod and explain to their apprentices what they are going to do. Then, the six cats leave the ShadowClan camp to show the new apprentices around ShadowClan territory.

They slowly pad through the forest, the three apprentices following their mentors.

"Hey, there's a mouse right here!" Mistypaw says, looking at the ground near a bush.

"We aren't hunting yet, Mistypaw. That's for later." Applebranch says to his apprentice.

Soon, the cats reach a twoleg path. "This is a twoleg path. The other side of the path is SkyClan territory." Mousetuft explains. "Don't cross into another clan's territory." She tells the apprentices. The apprentices nod, understanding the rule.

Then, the cats continue walking, but back in the other direction. After a bit of walking, they spot a twoleg nest.

"That's a twoleg nest." Applebranch explains. "I've seen some twolegs here. Don't ever get near the twolegs or the nest. Twolegs are dangerous." He tells the apprentices. They nod, listening to the warrior.

Then, they continued walking. "Right here, there's a twolegplace. There can be lots of twolegs here, but really only during greenleaf." Mousetuft tells the apprentices.

"You see the lake? In the middle of the lake, there is an island. That's where all of the gatherings take place." Daisybloom then meows.

Then, the six cats continue. Connected to the greenleaf twolegplace, there is a small thunderpath.

"This is a thunderpath. There's monsters on thunderpaths, so they're very dangerous. On the other side of the thunderpath, there's RiverClan territory." Daisybloom explains.

"Now, let's head back to camp." Mousetuft then meows, beginning to walk back. All of the other cats follow the older warrior.

"Our territory is so big!" Bearpaw says excitedly as they walk back. "I can't wait to start hunting!" He meows.

"Yeah! It's so exciting!" Mistypaw replies to Bearpaw. Sagepaw, however, stayed silent. She isn't as excited as the other two. She wants to be a warrior, but she is afraid she won't be good at it.

Then, they arrive back in camp and are greeted and congratulated by their clanmates.

One step closer to my dream of becoming a strong ShadowClan warrior! Bearpaw thinks.

Some Character References

[image] [image] [image] [image] [image] [image] [image] [image] [image] [image] [image] [image]

I decided to go ahead and throw in some simplified character references like I did with Addertooth's Story. I was questioning whether or not to put some in due to some possible plot spoilers but I decided to put them in anyways. The art is not mine, the credit for the lineart is in each of the photos. I wish I was good enough. Anyways, I hope you enjoy these! I won't say who is who either due to spoilers as well.

Chapter 5

Mistypaw exits the apprentices' den. She yawns and stretches out her legs. Then, she watches as Applebranch's gaze locks on her.

"Oh, finally, you're awake!" Applebranch meows, padding over to her. "Did you sleep well?" He asks her. Mistypaw nods in response. "Good, because today is your first day of real training." Applebranch explains.

"Yay!" Mistypaw cheers happily.

"Bearpaw and Sagepaw have been impatiently waiting for you to get up." Applebranch tells her. "They're very excited as well." He meows.

"Are we all training together?" Mistypaw asks her mentor. Applebranch nods.

"Yes. We're going to participate in a tradition that has been going on for a while now. I did the same thing when I was an apprentice. Smokefur and Ashstar were apprentices around the same time I was, so we got to do it together a couple times." Applebranch explains. "If you've heard stories about Duskstar and Addertooth, they were apprentices at that time too." He meows. "Cloudheart is my littermate, but she obviously was a medicine cat apprentice instead so she couldn't participate." He mentions. Mistypaw nods.

Wow, Applebranch is really talkative. Mistypaw thinks.

"Anyways, let's get moving." Applebranch meows. "Follow me." He adds. Then, Applebranch begins to walk over to Mousetuft, Daisybloom, Bearpaw, and Sagepaw. Mistypaw follows him closely. Soon, they reach the other cats.

"Is everyone ready to go?" Applebranch asks them.

"Yeah!" Bearpaw cheers happily, but all of the other cats simply nodded.

"I love the enthusiasm, Bearpaw. Let's go then." Applebranch meows. Then, Applebranch leads the other cats to where they will be training.

"All apprentices train in a very small clearing in the middle of the forest in ShadowClan territory." Applebranch explains. "This has been the spot for many moons now." He meows. "Once we get there, we will focus on hunting first and then battle skills. This will be fun, but it will be even more fun once Toadkit, Frostkit, and Nettlekit become apprentices." He tells the apprentices. The apprentices nod in response. Soon, the cats arrived at the clearing.

"Since none of you know anything, I will demonstrate some things to you. Since we will hunt first, I will share the basics of that with you." Applebranch meows. "Since I am the most skilled out of the three mentors, I will be teaching the three of you." He mentions. "Now, when hunting, you have to make sure you stay as quiet as possible so you don't scare away the prey. Once you locate what you want to catch, you must crouch down low like this." Applebranch explains, crouching down low. He is so low that he is almost touching the ground. "Then, you must slowly and quietly sneak closer if necessary." He meows, beginning to take a few slow and quiet steps forward. "And then, once you're close enough, you leap onto your prey and bite into its neck to kill it if necessary." He meows. He then leaps forward, his front paws hitting the ground first and then his hind paws. "Do you three understand?" Applebranch then asks the apprentices. They nod in response. "Then, go try it on your own. You go off into the forest and try to catch something. You have one attempt. If you catch it, great! If not, then we'll keep on practicing. Whether you catch it or not, you still return back to the clearing afterwards. Your mentor will follow you and observe your progress." Applebranch meows. The three apprentices nod and then go their separate ways.

Mistypaw walks off in her own direction and she notices that Applebranch is following her. The gray apprentice stays alert, sniffing the air for the possible scent of prey. Then, she catches the scent of a mouse. She spots the mouse eating a seed beside a tree.

She crouches down low and sneaks closer, staying quiet. Then, she leaps for the mouse. However, she loses control and missed the mouse, leaping right into the tree.

"Ow.." Mistypaw meows. She then hears Applebranch purring with amusement. "That wasn't funny!" Mistypaw complains.

Oh StarClan, why am I stuck with him as a mentor? Mistypaw thinks.

"I'm sorry Mistypaw, but it was just funny to me." Applebranch replies, still purring with amusement. Mistypaw rolls her eyes. "Anyways, let's head back to the clearing." Applebranch then meows. Mistypaw nods and then the two cats walk back to the clearing together.

When the two cats got back, Bearpaw and Daisybloom were already back. Bearpaw has a squirrel in his jaws and he is sitting there proudly. Mistypaw can't help but roll her eyes at Bearpaw as well.

"Did ya catch anything, Mistypaw?" Bearpaw then asks the other apprentice. Mistypaw shakes her head. Applebranch purrs with amusement.

"She did leap right into a tree though." Applebranch adds, still finding it amusing. Bearpaw and Daisybloom then purr with amusement as well.

"You three are lucky that I'm not seriously hurt." Mistypaw replies with a sigh.

"Stop taking things so seriously, Mistypaw. We're just having fun!" Bearpaw meows. "Lighten up a little." He adds. Then, at that moment, Sagepaw and Mousetuft returned. Sagepaw, like Mistypaw, returned with nothing. Sagepaw looked disappointed with herself.

"I wasn't even close..." Sagepaw meows, a sad tone in her voice.

"Don't worry, Sagepaw! You'll catch something soon, I know it." Bearpaw meows, purring at his littermate.

"Bearpaw is right. It's only your first time. You can only improve

from here." Mousetuft meows. Sagepaw nods.

"At lease you didn't leap right into a tree." Mistypaw mumbles to Sagepaw. Sagepaw purrs with amusement at the thought of Mistypaw running into a tree.

"It's not funny!" Mistypaw then meows.

"Now, we will focus on battle skills." Applebranch meows. "However, for this, I decided that I will tell you three absolutely nothing. I would like to see how you three already know how to defend yourselves. Even though you don't know any moves, I would like to see if any of you have an idea on what to do. You will each battle against your mentor, but don't worry, we will go very easy on you since you don't know anything. Just defend yourselves in the best way you can." Applebranch explains. "Then, from what ideas you have, we will build up." He adds. "Now, pair up with your mentor and when I say we will start, we will start. Remember to keep your claws sheathed." He meows. Mistypaw turns around and faces Applebranch. "Now, start!" Applebranch meows.

Mistypaw takes this moment to leap for Applebranch, but she misses and lands on the ground on all four of her legs. She tries it again, but this time Applebranch purposely allows Mistypaw to leap onto him. Mistypaw pretends to claw at him and Applebranch pretends to be in pain.

"Okay, you win." Applebranch replies, easily letting the new apprentice and former kittypet win. Mistypaw looks around at the others and she sees that they have finished as well. Bearpaw defeated Daisybloom but Sagepaw lost against Mousetuft.

"Did you all have fun?" Applebranch asks the apprentices. They cheer, even though Sagepaw cheer wasn't even enthusiastic. "I'm glad, it will be even more fun with more apprentices." He responds. "Now, let's head back to camp." He meows. Then, all six cats walk back to ShadowClan's camp. Once they arrive, they hear wonderful news. While they were gone, Wolfclaw had her kits successfully. They are named Dovekit, a gray she-kit, and Sootkit, a dark gray tom-kit. The apprentices are overjoyed at the news since it means that there will be more cats to spend time with in the future.

Chapter 6

I'm sorry for the long wait you guys! The next chapter was going to feature a gathering, but I decided to skip over it since I got bored while writing it and it led to no motivation. In summary, it is Mistypaw, Bearpaw, and Sagepaw's first gathering. They are very excited. They go there and everything seems well, but SkyClan did not go to the gathering, which confuses the three apprentices. Applebranch tells the apprentices about Foxstar. Foxstar is the cruel and terrible leader of SkyClan who constantly breaks the warrior code and is known for killing cats.
Now, let's get to the next chapter!

~

Sagepaw walks out of the medicine cat den. She had just helped Cloudheart gather some herbs.

"Sagepaw, I know you probably won't want to do this, but can you help me grab herbs? I found a large patch of catmint by the SkyClan border and I will need another mouth to help me carry some of them back. We need to be ready for the upcoming leaf-bare." Cloudheart said to her. "You were just right here and you didn't seem busy so I decided to ask you." She meowed.

"Oh, sure. It's no problem. I'm kind of bored right now anyways." Sagepaw had replied. Then, she went with Cloudheart to grab some catmint and she just returned. She turns her head to peek at the sight occurring outside the nursery.

"Froststar, you are trespassing on ShadowClan territory!" Toadkit meows with a bit of false aggression. Frostkit lifts his head up with pride.

"I know." Frostkit replies with a little smirk. "ShadowClan has always been weak. Your clan does not deserve to be at the lake. I, Froststar, Nettletail, and the rest of SkyClan will destroy ShadowClan!" He says with a purr.

"Weak? Well, I'll show you weak!" Toadkit replies with false aggression. Sagepaw watches as Toadkit crouches, does a little rear wiggle, and pounces on his littermate. Frostkit lets out a small squeal as he pushes Toadkit off of him with one of his hinds.

"I'll help you, Froststar!" Nettlekit meows, charging at her littermates.

"No!" Frostkit then meows and flops over. He lays on the ground, faking death.

"No, Froststar!" Nettlekit wails. She looks over at Toadkit, giving him a glare. "You will pay for this later!" She meows coldly. The she-kit then dashes away, pretending to return back to SkyClan territory. Sagepaw watches as Frostkit gets back up from the ground. She purrs at the cuteness of the three kits.

I hope I can have kits of my own someday. Sagepaw thinks. *But, I know it's way too early to be even thinking about that.* She thinks. *On another note, I'm glad that Toadkit, Frostkit, and Nettlekit are lively now.* She also thinks, thinking about their poor health condition a few moons ago. Much of the clan thought that the kits wouldn't make it, but look at them now. They're still small for their age, but they are growing quickly.

"That was fun!" Frostkit meows happily.

"Yeah! Once we become apprentices, we will stop Foxstar!" Nettlekit replies.

"Yeah! Down with the evil!" Toadkit cheers.

"Let all cats old enough to catch their own prey join here beneath the high branch for a meeting!" Sagepaw suddenly hears Ashstar's voice call.

Hm, I wonder what this is for. Sagepaw thinks as she walks closer to the high branch.

"Three young kits have regained strength recently and are finally ready to become apprentices." Ashstar announces.

Oh, yay! They're finally going to be apprentices too! Sagepaw thinks.

Sagepaw watches as the three kits walk over to where the clan is gathered. Moonheart, Tigerstripe's littermate and the kits' mother, follows behind them. She sits down with the three kits.

"Toadkit, you have reached the age of six moons, and it is time for you to be apprenticed. From this day on, until you receive your warrior name, you will be known as Toadpaw. Your mentor will be Icewhisker. I hope Icewhisker will pass down all she knows on to you." Ashstar says, her icy gaze looking down at the kit, but then it shifts over to a white-furred warrior. "Icewhisker, you are ready to have another apprentice. You have shown yourself to be a strong and clever warrior. You will be the mentor of Toadpaw, and I expect you to pass on all you know to him."

Toadpaw walks over to Icewhisker and touches noses with the warrior.

"Toadpaw! Toadpaw!" The clan cheers.

Then, Ashstar's gaze changes. Sagepaw watches as it shifts over to Frostkit.

"Frostkit, you have also reached the age of six moons, and it is also time for you to be apprenticed. From this day on, until you receive your warrior name, you will be known as Frostpaw. Your mentor will be Smokefur. I hope Smokefur will pass down all she knows on to you." Ashstar says, her gaze shifts over to Smokefur. "Smokefur, you are ready to take on another apprentice. You have received excellent training from Beetlenose and you have shown yourself to be a determined and kind-hearted warrior. You will be the mentor of
Frostpaw, and I expect you to pass on all you know to him."

Sagepaw watches as Frostpaw walks over to Smokefur. They touch noses and the clan cheers. "Frostpaw! Frostpaw!"

"Finally, Nettlekit, you have also reached the age of six moons, and it is also time for you to be apprenticed. From this day on, until you receive your warrior name, you will be known as Nettlepaw. Your

mentor will be Marshshade. I hope Marshshade will pass down all he knows on to you." Ashstar says, her gaze shifts over to the gray tom. "Marshshade, you are ready to take on your first apprentice. You have received excellent training from Fernpool, and you have shown yourself to be a skilled and clever warrior. You will be the mentor of Nettlepaw, and I expect you to pass on all you know to her."

Sagepaw watches as Nettlepaw dashes over to Marshshade. They then touch noses. "Nettlepaw! Nettlepaw!" The clan cheers.

"The clan meeting is now dismissed." Ashstar then meows, leaping down from the high branch.

Now we can have more fun with that training tradition. Sagepaw thinks.

Official Instagram!

I created an official Instagram for my stories! Follow it at @pastelgalaxy825 for updates, news, and things I do for my stories! I will share my own thoughts on there as well! Check it out!

Chapter 7

Here's yet another chapter to make up for the time I wasn't updating!

~

Mistypaw's eyes flutter open as she awakens from her slumber. She looks around at the other nests and realizes that all of the other apprentices are still sleeping in their nests. Oddly, except for Bearpaw.

Huh... where is he? Mistypaw thinks. She gets up out of her nest and stretches. Then, she pads out of the apprentice den. She glances around camp and realizes that Bearpaw is nowhere to be found. Also, it is before dawn. Mistypaw assumes that she must've woken up early because she fell asleep earlier the previous night.

Oh StarClan, where is Bearpaw? I really hope he's okay. Mistypaw thinks, continuing to look around camp a bit closer. However, Bearpaw is still not found. A terribly worried Mistypaw then quickly sneaks out of camp with a silent dash, hoping to not be caught exiting camp this early while it's still dark.

Mistypaw quickly pads along the leafy forest floor, looking for Bearpaw. The absence of Bearpaw is really worrying Mistypaw. She is frantically searching for him.

I really hope nothing bad happened to him.. Mistypaw thinks, scanning the area for any sign of the brown tom. Then, as she was reaching the RiverClan border, she started to hear voices. She curiously walks closer to the sounds of the voices. Then, she immediately recognizes one of the voices as Bearpaw's.

"You know you're really beautiful, right?" Mistypaw hears Bearpaw meow. She starts to feel a pang of anger. Her slow padding quickly speeds up as she moves towards the voices with a quicker speed. Then, she spotted them. The voice she heard was definitely Bearpaw, but he is talking to an unknown she-cat at the RiverClan

border. They are still at their respective sides of the thunderpath, but Mistypaw couldn't help but feel anger at Bearpaw. She dashes our of the forest and right to Bearpaw. She notices Bearpaw's terrified expression once he spots her.

He knows he's in trouble. Mistypaw thinks.

"Bearpaw, what in StarClan do you think you're doing?!" Mistypaw meows angrily at Bearpaw. Mistypaw had just assumed that the she-cat was a RiverClan cat by just where she was a while ago, but now Mistypaw can smell the RiverClan scent. Some of Mistypaw's back fur sticks up.

"I've... got to go." Mistypaw then hears the black-and-white RiverClan she-cat say. She hears paws thumping on the hard ground as the she-cat dashes off.

"Uhh... I was just talking to Rainpaw." Bearpaw replies nervously.

"This early?" Mistypaw asks. "Do you have a thing for her? Because it sure does seem like it. Clan cats don't have secret meetings with other clan cats like this." She meows, swaying her tail back and forth angrily. She can tell that Bearpaw is feeling both nervous and ashamed.

"Um, maybe...?" Bearpaw replies quietly and admittedly, looking down at the ground.

"You know that it's against the warrior code! You need to stop meeting with her, right now!" Mistypaw replies with her ears flattened.

"But... pretty much every cat left in ShadowClan is related to each other. It isn't a very good idea to have mates inside the clan." Bearpaw explains.

"So what? It doesn't really matter. Just as long as you don't become mates with Sagepaw I think you're good." Mistypaw replies.

"It may not matter to you, but it matters to me. You don't even have any relatives in ShadowClan. So, of course you don't care." Bearpaw replies. "Rainpaw is the most beautiful she-cat I've ever seen. I was

in awe when I met her at the gathering." He meows.

"It's against the warrior code, Bearpaw. You could get in huge trouble if you're caught." Mistypaw explains. "We're both too young to be thinking about mates anyways." She meows. "Now, promise me that you'll stop seeing her. You can be friends at gatherings, but stop meeting with her in secret and crushing on her. If you keep on seeing her and I find out, I will tell Ashstar." She meows. Bearpaw lets out a sigh.

"Fine." Bearpaw replies. "I promise I'll stop seeing Rainpaw." He says with an upset tone of voice.

"Good, now let's go back to camp before any of our other clanmates wake up and realize we're gone. I was worried sick about you." Mistypaw meows. Then, the two cats walk back to ShadowClan's camp together. They make it back in their nests without being caught by any of their clanmates.

Kin in ShadowClan

Just to show what Bearpaw was talking about.

Bearpaw

Mother: Graycloud
Father: Tigerstripe
Sister: Sagepaw
Grandmothers: Smokefur, Daisybloom
Grandfathers: Addertooth, Marshshade
Great-Grandmothers: Milktail, Wolfclaw, Hawkstar, Ashstar
Great-Grandfathers: Pineshade, Swiftfang, Acornfall, Applebranch
Great-Great-Grandmother: Ivycloud
Great-Great-Grandfather: Frogleap
Uncle: Thornpelt
Aunts: Moonheart, Sparrowpaw
Great-Uncles: Marshshade, Blacktail, Luckyspirit
Great-Aunts: Duskstar, Daisybloom
Great-Great-Uncle: Marshpaw
Great-Great-Aunts: Icewhisker, Fernpool, Cloudheart, Ebonyfrost
Cousins: Toadpaw, Frostpaw, Nettlepaw (1st cousins)

Chapter 8

[image]

Bearpaw pads out of the apprentice den and spots Daisybloom. He dashes over towards his mentor.

"Are you ready, Bearpaw?" Daisybloom asks him with a small purr sound.

"Yeah!" Bearpaw replies excitedly. Today, all of the apprentices are going to participate in the training tradition together. Bearpaw is excited to possibly get closer to the younger apprentices since he never got to play with them when they were kits because they were too weak. Soon, once all of the mentors and apprentices were there, Bearpaw, Sagepaw, Mistypaw, Toadpaw, Frostpaw, and Nettlepaw along with their respective mentors, Daisybloom, Mousetuft, Applebranch, Icewhisker, Smokefur, and Marshshade all exit the ShadowClan camp together, heading towards the small clearing.

"You're really pretty. I like your fur." Bearpaw hears Frostpaw meow to Sagepaw. Bearpaw's fur raises a little, feeling a little overprotective over his littermate.

Frostpaw, you're too young to be hitting on my littermate. Anyways, we're kin. Bearpaw thinks.

"Oh, thank you Frostpaw!" Sagepaw replies. "I really like your eyes. How are they like that?" She then asks the younger apprentice, looking at the white tom's different colored eyes curiously. "One is blue and the other is green." Sagepaw meows.

"I don't know, Moonheart said that they were like that when my eyes opened." Frostpaw replies.

"That's cool." Sagepaw replies. Bearpaw started to get a sick feeling in his belly as he listened to Mistypaw and Toadpaw chat.

"So, you were a kittypet?" Toadpaw asks Mistypaw. Mistypaw nods.

"Yeah." Mistypaw replies.

"Do you miss it at all?" Toadpaw then asks. Mistypaw shakes her head.

"Not at all. I love it here." Mistypaw replies with a small purr.

"Well, I'm glad you're here, even though some of the warriors don't appreciate your presence." Toadpaw meows.

"Thank you, Toadpaw!" Mistypaw replies.

"You're welcome." Toadpaw replies with a purr. Bearpaw sighs.

How come Mistypaw and Sagepaw can act all lovey with other cats this young but I can't meet with Rainpaw? I know we're from different clans, but it's hard. I want to see her again but I know for sure that I definitely shouldn't. Bearpaw thinks.

Soon, after a bit of a walk, the apprentices and their mentors reached the clearing.

"Since Mistypaw, Bearpaw, and Sagepaw did this last time, I will only have to explain this for the newer apprentices." Applebranch meows, facing the apprentices. "First, each of you will go with your mentor to try to hunt. You only have one attempt to catch something. Catch or miss, come back to the clearing after your one attempt. Then, you will come back here for some battle training, which I will explain when the time comes." He meows. "Now, let's start with hunting." Applebranch meows.

Bearpaw walks off with Daisybloom following him. Then, as he is walking, he hears something making the nearby leaves crunch. Bearpaw crouches low and moves closer to the bush, being careful and quiet. He tries his best not to make any noise as he steps on some fallen leaves. He then realizes that there's a squirrel hopping on the ground. He then leaps for the squirrel and successfully pounces on it. Bearpaw bites the squirrel's neck, feeling its body go limp in his jaws. He looks over at Daisybloom proudly.

"Great job, Bearpaw." Daisybloom meows. "Let's head back." She then says. The two of them then walk back to the clearing together. Bearpaw is carrying the dead squirrel in his jaws proudly.

When they get back to the clearing, Mistypaw and Applebranch and Sagepaw and Mousetuft are already there. Mistypaw has a mouse in her jaws. However, Sagepaw has nothing. Bearpaw notices that Sagepaw looks sad, so he walks right up to her.

"It's okay, Sagepaw. You'll catch something next time." Bearpaw meows to his silver littermate.

"That's exactly what I told you, Sagepaw." Mousetuft meows. "You just need a bit more practice and you'll eventually catch something." The senior warrior tells her apprentice.

When will Mousetuft retire? Bearpaw can't help but think. *She seems to be pretty old. When I saw her try to train Sagepaw, she didn't seem to be that good herself. I hope Sagepaw can learn despite Mousetuft's age. She will probably retire when Sagepaw becomes a warrior.* Bearpaw thinks to himself.

Then, Bearpaw turns around to see Frostpaw and Smokefur returning. Frostpaw has a bird in his jaws.

"Nice catch, Frostpaw!" Bearpaw compliments the younger apprentice.

"You too, Bearpaw!" Frostpaw replies with a purr and a muffled voice.

Bearpaw watches as Toadpaw and Nettlepaw both return with nothing.

"See, Sagepaw? You're not the only one." Bearpaw meows to his littermate.

"Frostpaw is younger than me and he still caught something." Sagepaw then replies with a disappointed tone of voice. "His mentor, Smokefur, isn't even that good at hunting herself. Have you seen her hunt? The chance of her catching something is like half and half. So, Frostpaw probably caught that with little training

experience." She meows.

"And? Does that matter? You still need more practice. You'll catch something very soon." Bearpaw replies.

"I guess you're right." Sagepaw meows, looking down.

Then, all of the apprentices that caught something buried their fresh kill.

"Now, to battle practice." Applebranch meows. "Since we have an even number of apprentices, we can split into pairs as apprentices." He explains. "We will split into three pairs. I will not pair littermates together. Older apprentices, please go easier on the younger apprentices. They don't know very much yet." He meows. "Apprentices, use all you know on your mentor. Remember, make sure your claws are sheathed. We don't want any injuries." He continues to explain. "Got it?" He asks. All of the apprentices nod. "The pairs will be Mistypaw and Nettlepaw, Bearpaw and Toadpaw, and Sagepaw and Frostpaw." Applebranch announces. "When I say you can start, you may start. Now... start!" He meows.

Bearpaw is in shock as Toadpaw leaps right for him. Bearpaw quickly dodges the younger apprentice's pounce and the smaller tom lands on the ground. Bearpaw takes this moment to quickly attack. Bearpaw leaps for Toadpaw, and successfully pounces on the younger cat's back, knocking him down to the ground. Bearpaw pins Toadpaw down, which was not a problem for Bearpaw since he is heavier than the other apprentice.

"Okay, okay, you win this one." Toadpaw meows, surrendering to Bearpaw.

"You're weak." Bearpaw comments.

"I know, I need more practice." Toadpaw replies. Bearpaw gets up off of Toadpaw and Toadpaw gets up off the ground.

Soon, everyone else was finished. Bearpaw beat Toadpaw, Mistypaw beat Nettlepaw, and Frostpaw beat Sagepaw. Bearpaw notices that Sagepaw looks disappointed yet again.

"Great job. Now, let's head back to camp." Applebranch meows to the others. Then, Bearpaw and the other apprentices that caught something unburies their fresh kill. The apprentices and mentors then walk back to camp together.

Chapter 9

[image]

Sagepaw opens her eyes to find herself in a beautiful, starry forest. She is confused about where she is, until she hears an unfamiliar voice speak to her from behind.

"Welcome to StarClan, Sagepaw." The voice meows. Sagepaw turns around to find a StarClan cat. She does not recognize the cat at all.

"Wait... am I dead?" Sagepaw asks the cat out of confusion. The StarClan cat purrs from amusement.

"No, silly. You're dreaming." The cat replies. "I have a message for you." He meows.

"Who are you and what is it?" Sagepaw then asks the mysterious StarClan cat.

"I'm Acornfall. I was the medicine cat before Cloudheart." The cat replies. "Sagepaw, you are not destined to be a warrior. It may be what you want, but it's not what you're meant to be." He meows.

"What am I supposed to be then?" Sagepaw asks curiously.

"You're destined to become a medicine cat." Acornfall tells her. Sagepaw's eyes widen in shock.

"Me..? A medicine cat?" Sagepaw replies. Acornfall nods in response.

"So.. I have to stop being a warrior apprentice..?" Sagepaw then asks.

"I think that's obvious, Sagepaw." Acornfall replies with an amused purr. "You ask too many questions." He adds. Sagepaw makes sure she isn't seeing things as she looks behind Acornfall and spots Mousetuft, Marshshade, and Fernpool.

What are they doing here? Sagepaw thinks. Suddenly, Sagepaw jolts awake as she hears loud yowls and wails coming from the warriors' den. She looks around the apprentices' den with wide eyes. She notices that the sound woke up all of the other apprentices as well.

"What was that?" Sagepaw hears as Toadpaw is the first to speak up. Then, the sounds are heard again. They seem to be of pain, sadness, and terror, which leaves Sagepaw very worried.

"I don't know, but it seems terrible. Should we go see what's going on?" Mistypaw asks the other apprentices.

"Yes." Frostpaw replies, getting up out of his nest. "We need to make sure our clanmates are okay." He meows.

"You're right, Frostpaw." Bearpaw meows, getting up as well. "It sounds like they're in trouble." He says. Then, all of the other apprentices, including Sagepaw, get up out of their nests and peeks out of the apprentices' den together. Sagepaw is filled with complete terror as she spots the warriors gathered outside of the warriors' den, watching as Daisybloom drags Mousetuft's bloody and lifeless body out of the warriors' den. It is still dark outside.

Mousetuft... my mentor... someone killed her. Sagepaw thinks out of fear. She then looks back at her dream. *So that's why Mousetuft was in StarClan... but Marshshade and Fernpool were there too. Are they okay?* She thinks. Then, right on time, she watches as Ivyleaf drags her own littermate's dead and bloody body out of the warriors' den. Sagepaw looks over at the other apprentices out of fear. She notices that the others are terrified as well. However, Nettlepaw is nowhere to be found.

"Where's Nettlepaw?" Sagepaw asks the others. Then, as if on cue, she hears Nettlepaw wail from inside of the apprentices' den.

Poor Nettlepaw. She lost her mentor as well. However, she seems to be taking it a lot worse than me. Sagepaw thinks.

"Oh, she's in the den." Sagepaw then meows. "Forget my question." She adds.

"I can't watch.." Sagepaw then hears Frostpaw whine, looking over at him as he walks back into the apprentices' den. Then, Sagepaw continues to watch fearfully as Icewhisker drags Fernpool's bloody and lifeless body out of the warriors' den. Sagepaw continues to watch, fearful that there could be more deceased cats, but there are no more. More grieving wails are heard from the cats.

"Whoever did this... will have to face my wrath!" Sagepaw hears Bearpaw meow angrily.

I wonder who did it then.. it seems like it was a cat. Sagepaw thinks. Then, as she continues to look over at the crowd of cats, she notices that Blacktail has a little bit of blood on the back of one of his front paws.

Blacktail... I should've known. Sagepaw thinks. She has always been terrified by the black tom, but now she definitely has a reason to. *He must've missed a bit of blood as he cleaned his paw after killing three of his own clanmates.* She thinks. *Now I have two things to report to Ashstar.* She thinks. As she continues to watch the warriors, she notices that some of the warriors are giving Blacktail looks of anger and terror. *Looks like I'm not the only one who noticed either.* Sagepaw thinks. *I will have to chat with Ashstar before any possible exile or vigil though. I need to tell her about my dream before I forget.*

Announcement!

I am going to create a 3 novella set (like what the Hunters do) but with 3 of my characters. I have a general idea of which characters I want to do but *comment some suggestions* and I might really consider them! They will be short, but will provide backstory for characters.

Official Novella Characters + Titles

Moonheart's Faith
Hawkstar's Choice
[SECRET] ;)

Chapter 10

It is the day after the tragic murders of Mousetuft, Fernpool, and Marshshade. Many cats, including Sagepaw and Mistypaw, have reported Blacktail as the most likely murder suspect. Mistypaw is sitting down in camp, not keeping her mind off of what happened the previous night, when she heard Ashstar's voice.

"Let all cats old enough to catch their own prey join here beneath the high branch for a meeting!" She hears her say. Then, the clan gathers beneath the high branch, including Blacktail. Mistypaw gives Blacktail a cold stare. All of the apprentices are very sure that it was Blacktail who murdered their three clanmates. They had discussed it earlier, and she realized that Sagepaw, Bearpaw, and Frostpaw had all seen the hidden blood on Blacktail's paws and his emotionless stare. But, what really bothers Mistypaw is not the fact that he did it, but *why* he did it. There was no good reason for him to kill his own clanmates. They did nothing to harm him.

"Last night, we all woke up to the tragic deaths of Mousetuft, Fernpool, and Marshshade." Ashstar meows. Mistypaw can see the pain in the gray leader's eyes.

Marshshade was Ashstar's kit and I'm pretty sure Smokefur told me that Ashstar's mentor was Mousetuft when I asked her. I was curious about who mentored such a great leader. It's a shame that we lost three wonderful warriors. On top of that, Fernpool and Swiftfang are littermates. Did Blacktail purposely target cats who are special to our leader and deputy? Mistypaw thinks.

"Ashstar has lost so much." Mistypaw overhears Icewhisker whisper to Daisybloom.

"Yeah, she has." Daisybloom whispers back.

"She lost Ivycloud, Marshpaw, Addertooth, Frogleap, and now

Mousetuft and Marshshade. Now Applebranch and Ivyleaf are all she has.." Icewhisker whispers to the younger cat.

"I just can't believe Blacktail would do such a thing.." Daisybloom whispers back. "Maybe things would've been different if Luckyspirit was still here.." She whispers.

I don't even know most of these cats. Mistypaw thinks. *I've heard about Addertooth though. The clan likes to tell kits stories about him.*

"We have all been wondering who did such a terrible thing. I received many reports about one cat in particular who didn't really seem to try too hard to hide his crime. There was even a warrior who watched his crime play out." Ashstar meows. Mistypaw watches as the leader's gaze glares coldly directly at Blacktail.

"Blacktail, you committed a terrible crime. With many witnesses, you have been proven to be the murderer of your own clanmates. You are a truly evil cat and I am ashamed that you would even think about doing such a thing. Killing your own clanmates is something that is unforgivable in my eyes. Blacktail, because of this, you are now exiled from ShadowClan. Leave ShadowClan's territory and never come back again." Ashstar meows angrily with a hiss. Mistypaw hears Blacktail let out a huff.

"Fine then, I didn't care about whether or not I got caught anyways." Blacktail speaks up. "ShadowClan and the rest of the clans are bound to crumble into pieces anyways." He meows.

"Stop talking and *leave*." Mistypaw hears Ashstar says coldly. At that moment, Blacktail dashes out of ShadowClan's camp. As he runs past, yowls of anger, betrayal, and hatred come from the clan. Once he is out of sight, Ashstar speaks up again.

"The clan meeting is now dismissed." She says, leaping down from the high branch.

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Sagepaw walks over to Ashstar once the leader leaps off of the high branch.

"Ashstar, may I speak with you again for a moment, in your den?" Sagepaw asks her.

"Sure, let's go." Ashstar replies and begins to walk to her den. Sagepaw follows behind her. Soon, they enter Ashstar's den.

"So, what is it that you want to talk to me about?" Ashstar asks Sagepaw.

"Um.." Sagepaw replies. "Last night, I had a dream. A StarClan cat named Acornfall told me that I'm destined to become a medicine cat." She reveals.

"Oh, that's interesting. I've always gotten a medicine cat vibe from you." Ashstar replies.

"Really?" Sagepaw asks. "How did you tell?"

"I just got that feeling from you. I don't know if it's your demeanor or what." Ashstar replies, purring a little at the apprentice. Sagepaw begins to purr as well. "How about you go get Cloudheart? We need to make sure she is included in this." She then says. Sagepaw nods and dashes out the den and towards the medicine cat den, where she assumes Cloudheart must be. When she stepped in, she spotted Cloudheart looking at her herb supply. The fluffy white she-cat then turns her head at the sound of Sagepaw's entrance.

"Hey Sagepaw. What's up? Are you hurt? Feeling ill?" Cloudheart quickly says.

I guess I'm really not the only one who asks too many questions. Sagepaw thinks.

"Can you head to Ashstar's den with me? She wants to speak to you." Sagepaw replies.

"Okay." Cloudheart replies. Then, the two cats walks over to the leader's den together. Once they enter, Ashstar was just like she was when Sagepaw left.

"Cloudheart, make sure you listen because this is very important." Ashstar meows. "Tell her, Sagepaw." She then says, looking over at

the silver tabby apprentice.

"Last night, I had a dream. In the dream, a StarClan cat named Acornfall told me that I'm destined to become a medicine cat." Sagepaw reveals. Cloudheart's eyes widen at the news.

"Oh! That's wonderful!" Cloudheart meows happily. "So, are you going to follow your destiny and become my apprentice?" She asks. Sagepaw replies simply with a nod.

"There's really no other choice. It's my destiny." Sagepaw meows.

And my warrior mentor was just murdered for StarClan's sake. Sagepaw thinks.

"Yay! I was waiting for the time I'll have an apprentice!" Cloudheart says happily, brushing against the young apprentice. The two cats touch noses and purr.

"I'll go make an announcement to the rest of the clan." Ashstar meows, exiting her den. Cloudheart and Sagepaw follow not far behind. Sagepaw watches as the gray leader leaps onto the high branch yet again.

"Let all cats old enough to catch their own prey join here beneath the high branch for a meeting!" Ashstar calls out again. Sagepaw could hear a few groans coming from her clanmates as they gather around the high branch.

"Lighten up, ShadowClan!" Ashstar meows with a purr of amusement. "We need a bit more enthusiasm!" She says.

She just lost her mentor and her kit and she's still staying strong. I know she's going through a lot of pain inside though. She has to stay strong for her clan. Sagepaw thinks.

"Today, I was given some exciting news." Ashstar meows. "One of our young apprentices, Sagepaw, has decided to become Cloudheart's apprentice." She announces. A few gasps can be heard from the clan as Sagepaw notices that the entire clan is staring at her. Her gaze shifts over to Bearpaw and Mistypaw, who are sitting together. They seem to be the most shocked, especially Bearpaw.

Bearpaw's eyes are wider than the sun! Sagepaw thinks. She then walks over to Cloudheart and they touch noses again.

"The clan meeting is now dismissed." Ashstar meows, leaping down from the high branch.

Novella Announcement

Since the past 3 novellas were with all female characters, I will do another set with all male characters. Here they are:

Blacktail's Curse
Foxstar's Rise
[SECRET] ;)

UPDATED ALLEGIANCES

(A little bit after the last chapter)

SHADOWCLAN

LEADER Ashstar— Gray she-cat with blue eyes

DEPUTY Swiftfang— Black tom with yellow eyes

MEDICINE CAT Cloudheart— White she-cat with blue eyes
APPRENTICE, Sagepaw (silver tabby she-cat with blue eyes)

WARRIORS Icewhisker— White she-cat
APPRENTICE, Toadpaw (gray tom)
Applebranch— Ginger tom
APPRENTICE, Mistypaw (gray she-cat with green eyes)
Smokefur— Dark gray she-cat
APPRENTICE, Frostpaw (white tom with odd eyes)
Daisybloom— Gray-and-white tabby she-cat with one blind eye
APPRENTICE, Bearpaw (brown tom with green eyes)
Ivyleaf— Ginger she-cat
APPRENTICE, Nettlepaw (gray tabby she-cat)
Tigerstripe— Brown tabby tom
Moonheart— Gray tabby she-cat
Graycloud— Gray she-cat with blue eyes
Thornpelt— Gray-and-white tom

QUEENS Wolfclaw— Gray tabby she-cat; mother to Swiftfang's kits: Dovekit (gray she-kit) and Sootkit (dark gray-and-white tom-kit)

ELDERS N/A

THUNDERCLAN

LEADER Briarstar— Gray tabby tom

DEPUTY Thistleseed— Golden-brown tabby she-cat

MEDICINE CAT Goldenfeather— Ginger-and-white she-cat

WARRIORS Oakbranch— Dark cream tom
Paledawn— Cream she-cat
Lionpounce— Ginger tom
Lilypetal— White she-cat
Sparrowfeather— Brown tom
Russetpelt— Ginger she-cat
Rosethorn— Brown-and-white she-cat
Waspclaw— Pale gray tabby tom
Lightingstrike— Ginger tom
Branchfall— Brown tom
Snowyleaf— Brown-and-white she-cat

QUEENS Violetmoon— Cream she-cat; mother to Sparrowfeather's kits: Eaglekit (brown tom-kit) and Aspenkit (cream she-kit)

ELDERS Dappledpelt— Tortoiseshell-and-white she-cat
Finchflight— Gray tom

WINDCLAN

LEADER Mudstar— Brown tom with hazel eyes

DEPUTY Snakefang— Gray tabby tom

MEDICINE CAT Berrybush— Gray tabby tom

WARRIORS Dovewhisper— Gray she-cat
Sunflame— Ginger tom
Stagdust— Brown tabby tom
Hazelclaw— Tortoiseshell she-cat
Yelloweyes— Black she-cat
Rabbitear— Pale brown tom
Quickstep— Gray tabby tom
Ravencall— Black tom
Petalstorm— Tortoiseshell she-cat
Stonefall— Gray tom
Meadowbreeze— Brown she-cat
Breezewhisker— Tortoiseshell she-cat

Deerleap– Brown she-cat
Dogfang– Brown tabby tom

QUEENS N/A

ELDERS Weedwhisker— Brown tom
Whitebird— White she-cat

RIVERCLAN

LEADER Cloverstar— Brown tom

DEPUTY Minnowfur— Silver tabby she-cat

MEDICINE CAT Blizzardsnow— White tom
APPRENTICE, Rainpaw (black-and-white she-cat)

WARRIORS Duskshadow— Black-and-white she-cat
Moonfeather- White she-cat with black splotches
Primrosefrost— Pale brown tabby she-cat
APPRENTICE, Stonepaw (dark brown tom)
Darkcloud- Black tom
Doestep— Black-and-white she-cat
Puddlesplash— Brown-and-white tom
Shellclaw— Brown she-cat
Floodstream— Gray tabby tom
Shadebush— Black she-cat

QUEENS N/A

ELDERS Sandfern- Pale ginger tom
Reedstorm- Brown tabby tom

SKYCLAN

LEADER Foxstar— Golden-brown tom

DEPUTY Badgerscar— Black-and-white tom

MEDICINE CAT Littlepoppy— Golden-brown tabby she-cat

APPRENTICE, Maplepaw (ginger-and-white tom)

WARRIORS Birchleaf— Brown-and-white she-cat
Lightningclaw— Dark brown tom
Tawnytuft— Ginger-and-white she-cat
Eaglefeather— Brown tabby tom
Blossomsnow— Gray-and-white she-cat
APPRENTICE, Nightpaw (black tom)
Echowhisper— Gray she-cat
Strikeclaw— Black-and-white tom
Robinflight— Dark ginger she-cat
Crowshadow— Black she-cat
Jaywing— Gray tom

QUEENS Bristlefur— Ginger she-cat; mother to Strikeclaw's kits: Sorrelkit (tortoiseshell-and-white she-kit) and Pinekit (dark ginger tom-kit)

ELDERS Brightflame— Ginger-and-white tom
Twigshade— Black tom

CATS OUTSIDE THE CLANS
Blacktail— Black tom with yellow eyes

Novella Descriptions

Moonheart's Faith
After the deaths of her father and sister, Moonpaw begins to lose faith in StarClan. How will she regain her faith?

Hawkstar's Choice
Hawkstar has fallen in love with her clan's medicine cat. How will she keep this all a secret, especially since she's expecting his kits?

Duskstar's Heart *(I decided to ditch the secret one, oops!)*
Duskstorm starts to have feelings for ShadowClan's medicine cat. However, there's two issues for Duskstorm. One, she's a medicine cat and two, she's a she-cat. Should she keep it all to herself or follow her heart's desire?

Blacktail's Curse
Blacktail plots to and eventually does kill some of his own clanmates. What is his reasoning behind this? "It's not me, it's in my head and my dreams," as he would say.

Foxstar's Rise
Foxstar has just been appointed the new leader of SkyClan. Now that he is leader, his thirst for power becomes even stronger, wanting SkyClan to be superior to the other clans. What is he thinking?

[SECRET]
(secret)

Chapter 11

Bearpaw walks out of ShadowClan's camp alongside Mistypaw, Daisybloom, and Applebranch.

It's been a half-moon since Blacktail was exiled. Since Sagepaw decided to become a medicine cat apprentice, she already had her new mentor. Nettlepaw, however, was given a new mentor through ceremony. Her new mentor is her previous mentor's littermate, Ivyleaf. The clan has been more cautious lately since Blacktail could be anywhere.

Now, Bearpaw and Mistypaw are going to do a little bit of training with their mentors. Suddenly, Bearpaw speaks up.

"Race ya to the edge of our territory!" Bearpaw meows excitedly, dashing off. His paws thump against the soft ground.

"Hey, wait up!" Bearpaw could hear Mistypaw meow. However, he kept on running. He could hear the yowls of their mentors, trying to get the two trouble-makers to stop and stick with them. He continues to run.

After a while, the brown tom finally reaches the edge of the border. Past this border is unclaimed territory. It belongs to no clan. It is said to be very dangerous, so many cats don't bother to go on unclaimed territory. He then stops.

"What was that for, you mousebrain!?" Bearpaw hears Mistypaw meows once she reaches the border as well. "We left our mentors behind!" She meows.

"I don't know, I just felt like running. I also felt like I could beat you and I did." Bearpaw replies.

"Because you got a head start!" Mistypaw replies, slightly annoyed

by the other apprentice. Then, their happy mood is destroyed as it is replaced with fear.

"Is that... who I think it is? And who are all of those other cats?" Mistypaw meows.

"That's definitely Blacktail.. but I don't recognize any of the other cats." Bearpaw replies.

"B-Bearpaw, we should leave." Mistypaw meows nervously.

"No, we will be fine. I'm not scared. I can protect you." Bearpaw replies, lifting his chin up with pride. Then, Blacktail turns his head and looks directly at the two apprentices. The both of them then squeal with terror and dash back towards they last saw their mentors. Then, they spot Daisybloom and Applebranch, seeming to be looking for them.

"Oh, there you two are!" Daisybloom meows happily, glad they're okay. Applebranch, however, had a different response.

"Don't do that again, you hear me." Applebranch meows with a slightly angry tone. "We were worried sick about you two." He says. Both Mistypaw and Bearpaw look down.

"We're sorry.." They say in unison.

"Because you two did that, neither of you will be getting your training today. You need to learn that it is not okay to do things like that. So, you're being punished. You two must stay in camp for the rest of the day, you hear me?" Applebranch meows. The two apprentices nod in response. "Good." Applebranch then meows. "Let's head back to camp." He says. Then, the four cats walk back to camp together. Daisybloom and Applebranch are taking the lead as Bearpaw and Mistypaw walk behind them.

"I'm sorry for starting that, Mistypaw. I had no idea—" Bearpaw starts to say, but Mistypaw breaks him off.

"No, it's okay Bearpaw. You didn't know. You just wanted to have fun." Mistypaw meows as the two of them walk side-by-side. Bearpaw then decides to change the topic.

"Blacktail has always worried me." Bearpaw admits. "I never liked his more aggressive and demanding personality." He meows. "Also, he was one of the cats who still didn't accept you as a member of ShadowClan. I can't believe there's still cats who don't consider you to be a true warrior apprentice. You're amazing, former kittypet or not." He meows.

"Thank you, Bearpaw." Mistypaw replies, purring a little as she gets a warm feeling inside. Then, the cats made us back to camp. Bearpaw dashes over to the fresh kill pile and grabs a squirrel in his jaws.

"Wanna share this?" Bearpaw asks in a muffled voice.

"Sure!" Mistypaw replies. Then, the two apprentices sit together and share the squirrel, trying to keep Blacktail off of their minds even though it is seemingly impossible for them to.

Chapter 12

Sagepaw wakes up, feeling a nudge at her shoulder. She growls a little, keeping her eyes closed.

"Sagepaw, it's time to go to the moonpool. Did you forget?" Sagepaw hears Cloudheart's voice meow.

Oh, right! I forgot! How did I forget?! Sagepaw thinks to herself.

"Oh, yeah. I forgot about that." Sagepaw replies, finally opening her eyes. The silver tabby stands up out of her nest and stretches.

"Let's go. I don't want us to be late." Cloudheart meows. Then, the two cats head off, walking towards the moonpool.

"Are you excited, Sagepaw? It's your first time!" Cloudheart meows with a cheerful tone in her voice.

"Yeah, but I'm a bit more nervous than I am excited." Sagepaw replies.

"There's nothing to be nervous about. All of the other medicine cats are nice and you'll get to visit StarClan." Cloudheart meows. "I was nervous my first trip to the moonpool too." She meows. "I'm glad I'm not walking to the moonpool alone anymore. I've been wanting an apprentice for a while, you know." She meows. "But, I never knew that my apprentice and I would have so much in common. You're like the kit I never had." She meows with a purr. Sagepaw can't help but purr as well.

She's a really warm-hearted cat. Sagepaw thinks.

"I feel the same way." Sagepaw replies. "We just started getting close and you're already like a second mother to me." She meows.

"Oh, we're here! I can see the moonpool." Cloudheart quickly

realizes out loud. "I wasn't really paying much attention." She admits. Sagepaw lifts her head up a little and spots the moonpool in the distance. She can see some cats already there. She recognizes some of them from the gathering she went to.

It's so beautiful. Sagepaw thinks, admiring the moonpool.

"Let's go." Cloudheart meows and the two walk together to the moonpool. Once they arrive, the medicine cats greet Cloudheart. Sagepaw looks around at the other cats. There's a ginger-and-white she-cat, a gray tabby tom, a white tom, and a black-and-white she-cat.

"Hello Cloudheart! Who is that with you?" The gray tabby tom asks her.

"Oh, this is my 'apprentice,' Sagepaw." Cloudheart meows.

"Oh! It's nice to meet you, Sagepaw. I'm Berrybush." The gray tabby tom meows.

"I-It's nice to meet you too." Sagepaw replies nervously.

"It looks like you finally got an apprentice." The ginger-and-white she-cat meows. "I'm *still* waiting on mine. I'm getting old and I don't want to die and leave ThunderClan with no medicine cat." She meows.

"Don't worry, Goldenfeather, you'll get one soon." Cloudheart replies. "Littlepoppy waited even longer than you to get an apprentice and now she has one." She meows.

"I'm hoping I get one of Violetmoon's kits." Goldenfeather meows.

"Oh, speaking of Littlepoppy, do you think she'll... make it tonight?" Berrybush questions.

"Knowing their situation.. I doubt it. I don't think Foxstar will let them." Goldenfeather meows. "I'd hate being in SkyClan right now. I hope they're doing alright." She says.

"Berrybush?" The white tom then meows.

"Yes, Blizzardsnow?" Berrybush replies.

"I'm sorry if this is a personal question but.. where's Nectarmist tonight?" Blizzardsnow asks him. Sagepaw watches as Berrybush's mood suddenly changes.

"She's with StarClan now, Blizzardsnow." Berrybush replies. At that announcement, all of the medicine cats' moods change. They are silent for a few seconds, but then a cat speaks up.

"We're so sorry to hear that, Berrybush." Cloudheart then meows.

"She was a very good cat and a great friend of mine. May she rest well in StarClan." Goldenflower meows.

"Shall we start now?" Cloudheart asks.

"Yes, let's start, especially since we have a new apprentice here with us." Goldenfeather approves. Cloudheart then turns to look at Sagepaw.

"Sagepaw, is it your wish to enter the mysteries of StarClan as a medicine cat?" Cloudheart asks her.

"It is." Sagepaw replies.

"Then come forward." Cloudheart meows and Sagepaw does what she is told. "Warriors of StarClan, I present you with this apprentice. She has chosen the path of a medicine cat. Grant her your wisdom and insight so that she may understand your ways and heal her Clan in accordance with your will." She meows. "Now, drink from the moonpool and you'll have a dream from StarClan." Cloudheart tells her apprentice. Sagepaw nods and laps the cool water of the moonpool. Then, she lays down and begins to fall asleep.

Sagepaw opens her eyes to see herself in StarClan yet again. She hears the sound of paws behind her, so she turns around. She sees Acornfall again, but this time with an unfamiliar cat.

"You've made the right choice, Sagepaw. Thank you for listening to what I told you. You're going to become a great medicine cat." Acornfall meows.

"Do you have any advice for me, since you were medicine cat and all?" Sagepaw asks Acornfall.

"I guess there's nothing against me giving you a little piece of advice." Acornfall meows. "Remember to always put your clan first." He tells her. "That's what I tried to live by as a medicine cat." He meows.

"I will remember that, thank you." Sagepaw replies. "Who's that?" She then asks, looking at the other cat with him. For some reason, she intimidates her.

She's kind of scary. Sagepaw thinks.

"I'm Duskstar. I was the leader of ShadowClan before Ashstar. She and I were best friends." Duskstar meows. "I've been watching you a lot and you've really caught my interest. You definitely have a bright future ahead of you. So, I asked Acornfall if I could accompany him tonight and he said I could." She meows.

"Oh, it's nice to meet you, Duskstar." Sagepaw meows with a respectful nod. Then, Sagepaw's dream ends randomly. The silver tabby opens her eyes. She turns her head and notices that Cloudheart is awake as well. It doesn't take long for Cloudheart to notice too.

"Are you ready to head back to camp?" Cloudheart asks her apprentice.

"Yes." Sagepaw replies.

"Bye Sagepaw!" Sagepaw suddenly hears. She turns around to see Blizzardsnow's apprentice.

"Oh, goodbye." Sagepaw replies to the other medicine cat apprentice. Then, Cloudheart and Sagepaw walk back to ShadowClan's camp together.

Chapter 13

It is now leaf-bare. Our three protagonists have been training hard these past moons, getting better day by day. Sagepaw is currently training with Cloudheart.

"Now, Sagepaw, which herb is this?" Cloudheart asks her, testing her apprentice's memory.

"Catmint, of course. You've been focusing on that herb a lot." Sagepaw replies.

"And what does it do?" Cloudheart then asks the silver tabby.

"It is used for greencough." Sagepaw replies.

"Good, we will probably need a lot of it very soon. It's leaf-bare now and cats are bound to get sick." Cloudheart meows.

"Now, what's this?" Cloudheart asks, pointing at it with her fluffy tail. It is white and silky.

"That's cobweb." Sagepaw replies.

"What does it do and how do you use it?" Cloudheart then asks.

"It is used to slow bleeding, but it can also be used to bind broken bones. You just press it over the wound." Sagepaw replies.

"Good job, you're getting better. You have a good memory." Cloudheart praises.

"Thank you, Cloudheart." Sagepaw replies with a purr.

"Let's do one more for today. It's going to be a bit harder." Cloudheart meows. She walks off towards another herb in her supply. "What's this herb?" She asks Sagepaw, pointing at the herb

with her tail. However, Sagepaw has no idea.

"Uh.." Sagepaw says, trying to think. "I've seen it around, but I have no idea what its name is.." She admits, a little disappointed in herself.

"It's okay." Cloudheart meows. "Just remember this. It's coltsfoot leaves. Coltsfoot has flowers that are yellow or white and they grow well here in ShadowClan's territory. The leaves are chewed into a pulp and are used to ease breathing and are also good for cracked or sore pads." She tells her apprentice. Sagepaw nods, understanding her mentor's explanation. "Do you want to stop for now?" Cloudheart then asks.

"Yeah." Sagepaw replies.

"You did great today. You're getting better and better." Cloudheart replies. "Just try to remember coltsfoot next time, okay?" She meows. Sagepaw nods.

"I'll try my best, Cloudheart." Sagepaw replies.

"You can go do your thing now. I'm going to try to see if I can find any more catmint anywhere. It's really tough to find." Cloudheart meows. Sagepaw nods and leaves the medicine cat den. The silver tabby she-cat looks around camp and spots Mistypaw and Bearpaw socializing. She dashes over to her littermate and her adoptive littermate.

"Hey." Sagepaw meows.

"Hey Sagepaw!" Bearpaw meows. "How's the medicine cat training going?" He asks her.

"Pretty good, actually. I like it more than I thought I would." Sagepaw replies.

"Good." Bearpaw replies with a purr. "I don't think I could handle being a medicine cat. I don't think I would be smart enough to remember all the herbs." He meows. "Being a warrior is more appealing to tough and strong toms like yours truly." He adds.

"This 'tough and strong tom' got scared of a spider while we were out training earlier." Mistypaw brings up with an amused purr.

"Hey! It was massive!" Bearpaw meows, a bit of his back fur standing up. Sagepaw purrs with amusement.

"You should've seen how high he jumped. His eyes were huge!" Mistypaw meows, messing with her fellow apprentice. "We all thought it was hilarious. Except Bearpaw, of course." She says.

"I told you to forget that!" Bearpaw replies with a quiet growl.

"I'm sorry, it's just too funny for me to forget." Mistypaw meows.

I'm missing out on a lot by being the medicine cat apprentice, aren't I? I don't get to bond with Bearpaw, Mistypaw, and the other apprentices that much anymore. Sagepaw thinks.

"Are you okay, Sagepaw?" Bearpaw then asks her, noticing her change in expression.

"Yeah, I'm fine." Sagepaw replies.

"Good, I got a little worried there." Bearpaw meows.

"How's warrior training going for the two of you?" Sagepaw then asks.

"Great! I'm getting stronger and stronger everyday." Bearpaw meows happily. "I can't wait until I'm a warrior. I'm going to be the best warrior ShadowClan has ever seen!" He claims.

"You wish." Toadpaw says as he walks over to them, joining in on their conversation.

"Hey, I did great today!" Bearpaw replies.

"Yeah, you did. I'm just messing with you, Bearpaw and you know that." Toadpaw replies.

"Oh, by the way, how's the whole medicine cat thing going, Sagepaw?" Toadpaw asks her.

"It's going well. I like it more than I thought I would. Thanks for asking." Sagepaw replies.

"You're welcome." Toadpaw replies. "I considered becoming Cloudheart's apprentice for a while. The stuff medicine cats do is interesting to me." He meows.

"What convinced you to become a warrior apprentice instead?" Sagepaw then asks curiously.

"I want a mate and kits in the future." Toadpaw meows.

"Oh, okay." Sagepaw replies.

"I've said this to you many times, but that's not a good reason not to become a medicine cat." Nettlepaw meows, joining in with the other apprentice. "Life doesn't revolve around mates and kits." She meows.

Now we just need Frostpaw and we would have all of the apprentices! Sagepaw thinks.

"Well, mine does." Toadpaw replies. "I want... seven kits with my future mate." He meows.

"Isn't that a lot, Toadpaw?" Mistypaw asks.

"Yeah, but kits are too adorable to just have one litter. I'll be the best father ever." Toadpaw meows. "I'll play with and help care for my kits all the time." He says.

"That's kind of cu–" Mistypaw starts to say, but then Nettlepaw gives her a shove, interrupting what she was trying to say. "What was that for?" She asks Nettlepaw.

"I don't know. I just felt like shoving you." Nettlepaw lies. Mistypaw lets out a sigh.

Nettlepaw has changed a lot ever since she became an apprentice. She was so weak when she was a kit and when she first became an apprentice. Now, she's braver and stronger. I think Ivyleaf rubbed off on her. Sagepaw thinks.

"What's up?" Sagepaw then hears. She looks over and spots Frostpaw. "Oh, hey Sagepaw! We don't really talk that much anymore since we don't train together. How's being a medicine cat apprentice?" He asks her.

"It's going pretty good. I like it more than I thought I would." Sagepaw replies.

"That's good." Frostpaw replies. "You're still as beautiful as ever though." He adds.

"You need to stop flirting with me. I'm a medicine cat apprentice now. I can't have a mate. Plus, we're both too young for that." Sagepaw replies.

"Who said I was flirting with you? Calling you beautiful doesn't mean I'm flirting with you. I'm just stating a fact." Frostpaw meows.

"Okay then." Sagepaw replies.

"Sagepaw!" Sagepaw then hears a familiar voice yowl. She turns her head and spots Cloudheart calling for her from the camp entrance. "Come here, I got lucky and found some useful herbs even in this cold weather, but I need some help carrying all of them." She meows.

"It looks like I have to go." Sagepaw meows. The other apprentices then say goodbye to her as she dashes over towards Cloudheart.

Chapter 14

Mistypaw wakes up just in time, right before dawn. Applebranch and her were chosen to go on the dawn patrol, so she was hoping she wouldn't sleep in too late. She ended up waking up at the right time. The gray she-cat walks out of the apprentice den, looking around for the leader of the patrol, Tigerstripe, or Applebranch. Then, she spots Tigerstripe standing near the camp entrance. She pads over to him.

"Hello Mistypaw. Did you sleep well?" Tigerstripe asks her.

"Yeah." Mistypaw replies.

"Good." Tigerstripe meows. The two cats are sort of distant despite the fact that Tigerstripe is technically her adoptive father, but Mistypaw can tell that he cares about her.

Soon, everyone else, including Applebranch, has gathered up together at the camp entrance. The cats on the patrol are Tigerstripe, Applebranch, and Mistypaw of course, along with Thornpelt, Smokefur and her apprentice Frostpaw, and Ivyleaf and her apprentice Nettlepaw.

"Let's go." Tigerstripe then meows, starting to walk off towards the SkyClan border. They were told by Ashstar to check the SkyClan border specifically due to how sketchy they have been acting lately. The patrol walks off towards the SkyClan border together with Tigerstripe leading the way.

"I have an odd feeling about this." Mistypaw admits as the patrol pads through the forest.

"Don't worry, Mistypaw." Mistypaw then hears Smokefur reply. "Everything will be perfectly fine!" She says happily.

"Are you sure?" Mistypaw asks the older warrior.

"Yes. SkyClan can't mess with us!" Smokefur meows confidently.

"Thank you, Smokefur." Mistypaw replies.

"You're welcome! Just try to look on the bright side more often." Smokefur advises. Mistypaw responds with a nod. Soon, the patrol reached the SkyClan border.

"Hey, I think I've found SkyClan scent in our territory." Thornpelt meows.

"You sure did." Mistypaw then hears an unfamiliar voice meow. She turns her head to see an entire SkyClan patrol in ShadowClan's territory.

"What are you doing here?! This is our territory!" Tigerstripe meows, beginning to growl.

"Not anymore. This belongs to SkyClan now." A dark brown tom replies.

"This side of the twoleg path is and always will be ShadowClan territory!" Applebranch hisses, stepping in.

"Foxstar wants it, so it's ours now." The dark brown tom meows. "If you want it, you have to fight for it." He tells the ShadowClan patrol.

"Okay then! If that's what it takes to protect our territory, then bring it on!" Tigerstripe hisses.

"Alright, you asked for it!" The dark brown tom meows. "SkyClan, attack!" He yowls. Mistypaw watches in terror as SkyClan cats begin to lunge for her clanmates. She is frozen in shock.

This is my first real battle! What do I do?! Mistypaw thinks, panicking on the inside. Then, she feels a heavy weight slam into her and she hits the ground. That's when she snaps back into reality. She looks up and sees a black tom pinning her down. He seems to be not much older than Mistypaw. She assumes that the tom is an

apprentice just like her.

Remember your training, remember your training. Mistypaw thinks. Then, she lifts up one of her hinds and uses it to shove the black tom off herself, which is a success. The force of her shove throws the tom right off her. That's when Mistypaw realizes that the tom is not in good shape.

He's very skinny.. Mistypaw thinks. A little bit of guilt hits her, but she remembers what she has to do and continues to fight the black tom. She leaps for the black tom and successfully tackles him down. She then uses her claws to leave a small scratch on the tom's belly. He lets out a small yowl due to the pain.

"Get off of me please." The black tom then meows.

"Why would I get off of you? You're trying to take away *our* territory!" Mistypaw replies.

"No, get off of me because I give in. I surrender." The black tom replies.

"After only one scratch?" Mistypaw asks.

"Stop questioning me and just get off!" The black tom meows with frustration. Mistypaw lets out a sigh and gets off of the black tom.

"Thank you." The black tom replies and quickly dashes off back to his own side of the twoleg path. Mistypaw takes this moment to look around at what is going on around her. But, all she sees is her clanmates with barely any wounds.

"That was easy. They're so weak right now. I had no idea why they thought they had a chance." Thornpelt meows.

"We need to remark our territory and then head back to camp. We have to tell Ashstar what happened." Tigerstripe meows. The other cats in the patrol nod in response and they work together to remark the territory with SkyClan's scent.

"Now, let's head back to camp." Tigerstripe meows. The patrol walks back to camp together with Tigerstripe leading the way. Soon, they

get back.

"What happened?" Is what many of their clanmates asks once they got back to camp. They had very few wounds, but it was enough that it was noticeable.

"We found SkyClan cats on our side of the border and they attacked us." Tigerstripe explains to the clan. "We easily fought them off though, so everything is okay. No cat is badly wounded." He meows. "They were very weak and seemed to be on the verge of starvation." He adds.

"Thank you for telling us this, Tigerstripe." Ashstar then meows. "Each of you must have fought well, good job." She says. "We need to be more careful whenever we're around the SkyClan border from now on." She meows. Many of the ShadowClan cats nod in response to what their leader said.

"Wow, you were in your first real battle!" Bearpaw meows once he walks up to Mistypaw. "I'm glad you're okay." He says.

"Thank you, Bearpaw." Mistypaw replies.

"If any cat has any injuries they need to be checked, you can come over here in the medicine cat den." Mistypaw hears Cloudheart meow.

I don't even have a scratch, so I think I'm okay. Mistypaw thinks.

"I wish I was on the patrol." Bearpaw then meows. "I want to get into my first real battle." He meows.

"Be careful what you wish for, Bearpaw." Mistypaw replies.

"No, I just want an easy battle like you had." Bearpaw meows. "If I was on the patrol, SkyClan wouldn't dare to come on ShadowClan territory again!" He claims.

"Yeah because you are so terrible they will leave because any cat can win against you! It wouldn't be a challenge!" Toadpaw meows from a distance.

"Let me live, Toadpaw." Bearpaw replies. Mistypaw purrs from amusement.

The fact that Bearpaw is actually the best at battling out of all of the apprentices makes this even funnier. Mistypaw thinks.

"Can you believe him? He's always messing with me." Bearpaw meows.

"He says all of the things I keep in my head." Mistypaw replies. "I guess it's just his way of showing his friendship to you." She adds. Bearpaw nods in response. Then, the apprentices relax, relying on the sun from warmth during this bitter leaf-bare.

Chapter 15

A/N: Sorry for a shorter chapter! This is all I had planned for this chapter. Hopefully next chapter will make up for it.

Mistypaw wakes up from her slumber. She looks around at the other cats in the apprentice den and sees both Nettlepaw and Bearpaw missing. They were chosen to be on dawn patrol, so that's probably what they're doing. However, Mistypaw couldn't help but start to worry.

What if they get attacked too and their opponents are much stronger? Mistypaw worries. *I don't want Bearpaw to get hurt or even die.* She thinks.

The worried gray she-cat gets up out of her nest and stretches her legs. Then, she heads over to the entrance of the camp, waiting impatiently for the dawn patrol to return.

Why am I so worried about Bearpaw? Mistypaw asks herself. *He's just a friend and adoptive littermate. Plus, he can defend himself very well if they are attacked.* She thinks. *What if my feelings for him are.. more than that?* She thinks.

"Hey Mistypaw, what are you doing?" Mistypaw hears a familiar voice ask her. She turns her head to see Sagepaw standing by her. "Are you waiting for Bearpaw to get back?" She asks her.

"I am." Mistypaw replies.

"You never did this before. Are you worried about him?" Sagepaw then asks.

"You ask too many questions." Mistypaw meows in response.

"I'm assuming that you are worried about him. You got into a battle while on dawn patrol the day before, so you're worried he will too." Sagepaw meows.

"How do you know?" Mistypaw asks Sagepaw, her eyes widening a little.

"It's just an assumption." Sagepaw replies, beginning to walk away. "I should go over to Cloudheart now. See you later." She meows, walking off. Mistypaw sighs and continues to wait impatiently. Not that long after, the patrol finally returns after what felt like an eternity to Mistypaw. Mistypaw rushes over to Bearpaw.

"Hey! I'm glad you're okay!" Mistypaw says happily, since the patrol seems like they weren't in a battle.

"Woah, are you okay, Mistypaw?" Bearpaw asks. "You usually aren't like this." He meows.

"Yeah, I'm fine. I was just.. a little worried." Mistypaw admits.

"A little? You've been waiting at the camp entrance ever since you woke up!" Mistypaw hears Toadpaw claim from behind her. Mistypaw turns her head and gives Toadpaw a glare.

"Okay, okay, sorry." Toadpaw replies, lowing his head.

"Why were you watching me?" Mistypaw asks the other apprentice.

"I don't know, I was curious." Toadpaw replies. Mistypaw turns her head back to Bearpaw.

"Well, thank you for worrying about me, I guess." Bearpaw meows.

"I couldn't help but do so. I don't know what I would do if I lost you." Mistypaw meows.

"Cute." Toadpaw then comments.

"Do you want to die?" Mistypaw says and turns back to Toadpaw.

"N-No." Toadpaw replies.

"Good." Mistypaw meows, turning back to Bearpaw. Toadpaw has seemingly gained a bit of a fear of Mistypaw, which she has been using to her advantage.

"Mistypaw." She hears a voice say. She looks and spots Applebranch. "Let's go train a little bit, okay? We need to focus a bit more on your battle skills." He meows.

"Okay." Mistypaw meows. She looks back at the other two apprentices. "I have to go. See you two later." She meows. Her and Applebranch then headed out of ShadowClan's camp and out into the territory.

Chapter 16

Bearpaw walks through the forest along with his mentor, Daisybloom, Mistypaw and Applebranch, Graycloud, Swiftfang, and Icewhisker and Toadpaw. They are currently on a hunting patrol. It's leaf-bare, so prey is scarce. They have to catch whatever they find. The patrol walks together through the snow, looking for any signs of prey. Then, something unexpected happens. Other unrecognizable cats burst out of the bushes and from behind trees. Bearpaw's eyes widen in fear.

Are these... rogues? I don't recognize any of them. But, that doesn't matter. I have to defend my clan right away! Bearpaw thinks.

He focuses his emerald gaze on a ginger tabby rogue and leaps for him, landing on his back. The tabby attempts to throw the apprentice off, but he only fails. Bearpaw sinks his claws into the rogue's back and the rogue lets out a yowl of pain. Bearpaw then leaps off of the rogue's back and quickly charges at the rogue, tackling him to the ground. He scratches the tabby's ear, tearing it a little. The tabby soon gets the upper hand, throwing the apprentice off of himself with one of his hind legs. However, that does not last long as Bearpaw tackles him yet again before he gets the chance to attack. Bearpaw leaves a scratch on the rogue's chest and he yowls yet again. Bearpaw is thrown off by the rogue yet again and he watches as the tabby tom runs out of ShadowClan's territory.

"Yeah! Leave and never come back!" Bearpaw hisses as the rogue dashes away. He looks around his surroundings to see that most of the rogues were successfully fought off by the rest of the patrol. There weren't too many of them anyways. He watches as the last rogue remaining quickly surrenders after realizing that it's her against eight cats. Bearpaw looks over at the rest of the patrol.

"Great job." He meows, feeling proud of himself and his clanmates. None of the cats on the patrol seem to be seriously wounded and they successfully fought off the rogues, so he his in a good mood.

"What is it with patrols I'm in getting attacked?" Mistypaw then meows, which gets some amused purrs from the rest of the patrol.

"I'm very proud of you, Bearpaw." Daisybloom compliments her apprentice. "You fought very well today, especially since it was your first real battle. I'm very impressed." She meows.

"Thank you, Daisybloom." Bearpaw replies to his mentor.

"Let's head back to camp. We need to make sure Ashstar knows about this. All patrols need to be very alert from now on. I can make sure I send out a new hunting patrol later." Swiftfang, the clan's deputy, meows. Then, Swiftfang leads the patrol back to camp. Not long after, the cats arrive back at camp.

Many cats at camp ask about what happened while they were on patrol.

"Our patrol was attacked by rogues. Thankfully, we successfully fought them off with no major injuries." Swiftfang explains. Bearpaw notices that a concerned Wolfclaw is peeking out of the nursery.

Swiftfang is her mate. I bet she was worried after hearing the commotion. Bearpaw thinks.

"Well, I'm glad all of you are okay." Ashstar meows in response. "But, every cat that exits the camp needs to be extra cautious and alert from now on. This is the second time we've had a patrol being attacked." She meows.

"Ashstar, can I speak to you in private about this?" Swiftfang then asks. "This is very serious and we should discuss it more just you and I." He meows.

"Sure." Ashstar replies.

"Can I speak to you as well?" Daisybloom asks. "Me too?" Applebranch asks his mate.

"Of course, come along with me to my den." Ashstar meows. Bearpaw watches as the four cats walk off towards the leader's den.

I wonder what Daisybloom and Applebranch need to talk to Ashstar about. What if we're becoming warriors?! Bearpaw thinks.

"It looks like you've had your first real battle too." Mistypaw meows to Bearpaw.

"Yeah. It was easy though." Bearpaw replies. "It's kind of anticlimactic though. I was hoping that my first battle would be big, tough, and that I would be claimed as a hero afterwards." He admits.

"You're a dreamer, of course things wouldn't be how you expect them to be." Mistypaw meows in response. "I'm cold." She quickly admits, leaning against Bearpaw.

"We're all cold, Mistypaw, it's leaf-bare." Bearpaw replies. "You feel warm though." He adds. He watches as he notices an injured Toadpaw limping towards the medicine cat den.

I hope he's okay. He was probably in the worst shape out of the entire patrol after the battle. Bearpaw thinks. He then watches as Ashstar unexpectedly leaps onto the high branch.

"Let all cats old enough to catch their own prey join here beneath the high branch for a meeting!" Ashstar calls out. The clan then gathers beneath the high branch.

Maybe we are becoming warriors! Bearpaw thinks.

"Today, as you all know by now, one of our hunting patrols was attacked by rogues. I was told about the bravery and skill of two apprentices on the patrol by their mentors and they believe that they are ready to become warriors. I approve of their wishes, so Bearpaw and Mistypaw are now ready to become warriors of ShadowClan." Ashstar announces.

Oh StarClan, yes! My dream is coming true! Bearpaw thinks.

"Bearpaw, please come forward." Ashstar says. Then, Bearpaw does what he is told.

"I, Ashstar, leader of ShadowClan, call upon my warrior ancestors to

look down on this apprentice. He has trained hard to understand the ways of your noble code, and I commend him to you as a warrior in his turn." Ashstar meows. She then looks down at Bearpaw. He looks back up at her happily.

"Bearpaw, do you promise to uphold the warrior code and to protect and defend your Clan, even at the cost of your life?" She meows.

"I do." Bearpaw then responds.

"Then by the powers of StarClan, I give you your warrior name. Bearpaw, from this moment on you will be known as Bearclaw. StarClan honors your strength and skill, and we welcome you as a full warrior of ShadowClan." Ashstar meows.

That's such a cool name! Bearclaw thinks.

The clan begins to cheer his new warrior name. "Bearclaw! Bearclaw!" They cheer.

"Thank you, Ashstar." Bearclaw meows happily and steps back to where he was.

"Now, Mistypaw, please come forward." Ashstar meows. Mistypaw does what she is told. Bearclaw watches, proud of his friend.

"I, Ashstar, leader of ShadowClan, call upon my warrior ancestors to look down on this apprentice. She has trained hard to understand the ways of your noble code, and I commend her to you as a warrior in her turn." Ashstar meows. She looks down at Mistypaw.

"Mistypaw, do you promise to uphold the warrior code and to protect and defend your Clan, even at the cost of your life?" She asks the apprentice.

"I do." Mistypaw responds.

"Then by the powers of StarClan, I give you your warrior name. Mistypaw, from this moment on you will be known as Mistystorm. StarClan honors your honesty and loyalty and we welcome you as a full warrior of ShadowClan." Ashstar meows.

The clan then cheers Mistypaw's new warrior name. "Mistystorm! Mistystorm!" They cheer.

Ashstar leaps off of the high branch and rests her muzzle on both Bearclaw's and Mistystorm's heads and the two new warriors each lick their leader's shoulder.

"The clan meeting is now dismissed." Ashstar announces and then walks off.

"I can't believe we're warriors now!" Bearclaw meows happily.

"I really wasn't expecting that." Mistystorm replies. "I was caught off guard." She says with a purr of amusement.

"I guessed that it would happen, but I didn't think it actually would until Ashstar called for a clan meeting." Bearclaw admits. "You deserve it though." He meows.

"So do you." Mistystorm replies, purring a little. The two cats lean closer to each other and Bearclaw licks the top of Mistystorm's head.

"I couldn't be any prouder than how proud I am of you right now." Bearclaw meows.

UPDATED ALLEGIANCES

SHADOWCLAN

LEADER Ashstar— Gray she-cat with blue eyes

DEPUTY Swiftfang— Black tom with yellow eyes

MEDICINE CAT Cloudheart— White she-cat with blue eyes
APPRENTICE, Sagepaw (silver tabby she-cat with blue eyes)

WARRIORS Icewhisker— White she-cat
APPRENTICE, Toadpaw (gray tom)
Applebranch— Ginger tom
Smokefur— Dark gray she-cat
APPRENTICE, Frostpaw (white tom with odd eyes)
Daisybloom— Gray-and-white tabby she-cat with one blind eye
Ivyleaf— Ginger she-cat
APPRENTICE, Nettlepaw (gray tabby she-cat)
Tigerstripe— Brown tabby tom
Moonheart— Gray tabby she-cat
Graycloud— Gray she-cat with blue eyes
Thornpelt— Gray-and-white tom
Bearclaw— Brown tom with green eyes
Mistystorm— Gray she-cat with green eyes

QUEENS Wolfclaw— Gray tabby she-cat; mother to Swiftfang's kits: Dovekit (gray she-kit) and Sootkit (dark gray-and-white tom-kit)

ELDERS N/A

THUNDERCLAN

LEADER Briarstar— Gray tabby tom

DEPUTY Thistleseed— Golden-brown tabby she-cat

MEDICINE CAT Goldenfeather— Ginger-and-white she-cat
APPRENTICE, Aspenpaw (cream she-cat)

WARRIORS Oakbranch— Dark cream tom
Paledawn— Cream she-cat
Lionpounce— Ginger tom
Lilypetal— White she-cat
Sparrowfeather— Brown tom
Russetpelt— Ginger she-cat
Rosethorn— Brown-and-white she-cat
APPRENTICE, Eaglepaw (brown tom)
Violetmoon— Cream she-cat
Waspclaw— Pale gray tabby tom
Lightingstrike— Ginger tom
Branchfall— Brown tom
Snowyleaf— Brown-and-white she-cat

QUEENS **N/A**

ELDERS Dappledpelt— Tortoiseshell-and-white she-cat

WINDCLAN

LEADER Mudstar— Brown tom with hazel eyes

DEPUTY Snakefang— Gray tabby tom

MEDICINE CAT Berrybush— Gray tabby tom

WARRIORS Dovewhisper— Gray she-cat
Sunflame— Ginger tom
Stagdust— Brown tabby tom
Hazelclaw— Tortoiseshell she-cat
Yelloweyes— Black she-cat
Rabbitear— Pale brown tom
Quickstep— Gray tabby tom
Ravencall— Black tom
Petalstorm— Tortoiseshell she-cat
Stonefall— Gray tom
Meadowbreeze— Brown she-cat
Breezewhisker— Tortoiseshell she-cat

Deerleap– Brown she-cat
Dogfang– Brown tabby tom

QUEENS N/A

ELDERS Weedwhisker— Brown tom

RIVERCLAN

LEADER Cloverstar— Brown tom

DEPUTY Minnowfur— Silver tabby she-cat

MEDICINE CAT Blizzardsnow— White tom
APPRENTICE, Rainpaw (black-and-white she-cat)

WARRIORS Duskshadow— Black-and-white she-cat
Moonfeather- White she-cat with black splotches
Primrosefrost— Pale brown tabby she-cat
APPRENTICE, Stonepaw (dark brown tom)
Darkcloud- Black tom
Doestep— Black-and-white she-cat
Puddlesplash— Brown-and-white tom
Shellclaw— Brown she-cat
Floodstream— Gray tabby tom
Shadebush— Black she-cat

QUEENS N/A

ELDERS Sandfern- Pale ginger tom
Reedstorm- Brown tabby tom

SKYCLAN

LEADER Foxstar— Golden-brown tom

DEPUTY Badgerscar— Black-and-white tom

MEDICINE CAT Littlepoppy— Golden-brown tabby she-cat
APPRENTICE, Maplepaw (ginger-and-white tom)

WARRIORS Birchleaf— Brown-and-white she-cat
Lightningclaw— Dark brown tom
Tawnytuft— Ginger-and-white she-cat
Eaglefeather— Brown tabby tom
Blossomsnow— Gray-and-white she-cat
APPRENTICE, Nightpaw (black tom)
Echowhisper— Gray she-cat
Robinflight— Dark ginger she-cat
Crowshadow— Black she-cat
Jaywing— Gray tom

QUEENS Bristlefur— Ginger she-cat; mother to Strikeclaw's kits: Sorrelkit (tortoiseshell-and-white she-kit) and Pinekit (dark ginger tom-kit)

ELDERS N/A

CATS OUTSIDE THE CLANS
Blacktail— Black tom with yellow eyes

Chapter 17

Bearclaw pads out of the warriors' den and into the snowy camp. Snow is falling from the sky, which gives Bearclaw a feeling of excitement despite the bitter cold.

"Hey Bearclaw!" He hears. He looks over in the direction of the voice and spots Cloudheart.

"Come into the medicine cat den with me. I need to speak to you and Sagepaw." She tells him.

"Oh, okay." Bearclaw replies.

I wonder what this is for. Bearclaw thinks. He then walks towards the medicine cat den, his paws crunching in the snow. He enters the den behind Cloudheart, seeing that Sagepaw is already there.

"What is it you want to talk to us about, Cloudheart?" Sagepaw asks her mentor.

"Please listen carefully because this is very important." Cloudheart tells them beforehand. The littermates nod in agreement.

"When the two of you were kits, I received a prophecy." Cloudheart meows. "Please take this very seriously because I was told this may determine the survival or downfall of the clans." She tells them. The two cats nod yet again.

"Now can you tell us what the prophecy said?" Bearclaw asks.

"Yes, I was about to get to that." Cloudheart replies. "The prophecy said that two small kits will grow into very strong cats, work together, and save all five clans from eventual doom." She meows. "Ever since I received the prophecy, I have believed that it's about the two of you." She says. "Especially since you're both grandkits of

Addertooth." She adds.

"Wow, that's amazing.." Bearclaw meows. "I hope it's really us." He says. "It would be so cool to have that much power!" He meows excitedly.

"Calm down, Bearclaw. You should be careful not to tell anyone else about this, okay? Especially Mistystorm or the apprentices. You hear me?" Cloudheart meows.

"Yeah, I'll be careful." Bearclaw replies.

"Are you sure this about me? I don't think I'm very strong." Sagepaw asks.

"Yes. You are strong already, but you will get even stronger as time goes on and you become a full medicine cat." Cloudheart replies.

"Okay, if you say so, Cloudheart." Sagepaw replies.

"The two of you can go and do your own thing now. I just thought it was a good time to tell the two of you about this." Cloudheart meows.

"Thank you, Cloudheart." Bearclaw meows.

"Yeah, thank you." Sagepaw then meows.

"You're welcome." Cloudheart replies and then the two littermates leave the medicine cat den. Once they exit the den, Bearclaw and Sagepaw begin to talk about the prophecy to each other excitedly.

"Can you believe it?" Bearclaw meows. "If this is true, it would be so amazing!" He says.

"If what would be true?" Mistystorm asks the two littermates, approaching the two of them.

"Uh.." Bearclaw replies, giving Sagepaw a nervous gaze. Sagepaw gives him a nervous gaze back.

"If... there is more prey than usual this leaf-bare!" Bearclaw quickly

attempts to save, but it doesn't work.

"The two of you are hiding something from me, aren't you?" Mistystorm asks the littermates, seeming a little upset.

"No, we aren't, really!" Sagepaw quickly replies.

"Are you sure?" Mistystorm asks them.

"Yes, we're sure! We aren't hiding anything from you." Bearclaw replies.

"Whatever you say, but I still don't believe what the two of you are saying. You're definitely hiding something from me, and I don't like that. We're supposed to be best friends and best friends share everything with each other." Mistystorm meows, feeling betrayed.

"I'm sorry, Mistystorm.." Bearclaw meows.

"Yeah, we're very sorry." Sagepaw meows. "Is there anything we can do to make it up to you?" She asks.

"Maybe tell me what you're hiding from me?" Mistystorm suggests. Bearclaw lets out a deep sigh.

"Fine, let's go out of camp to tell you this though." Bearclaw gives in. Then, the three cats exit ShadowClan's camp and out into the rest of the snowy territory. Once they've walked far enough from camp, the three cats stop walking in the middle of the dense forest.

"Cloudheart told us about a prophecy and she thinks it's about the two of us." Sagepaw reveals to Mistystorm.

"Oh wow.." Mistystorm replies. "That's amazing and I'm happy for the two of you if the prophecy is about the two of you." She meows, despite the fact that she seemed pretty disappointed to Bearclaw.

Does she wish she's a part of the prophecy too? She's seems upset... Bearclaw thinks.

"That's it, so let's head back to camp." Bearclaw meows. The three cats then walk back to camp together with the prophecy on each of

their minds.

Chapter 18

Mistystorm walks back into camp after going on a border patrol. Thankfully, there were no signs of any intruders. She has been upset ever since hearing about the prophecy. She feels left out and unimportant. She starts to head over towards the warriors' den where she would be warmer, but then she was interrupted.

"Hey, Mistystorm." Cloudheart meows.

"Oh, hey Cloudheart. What's up?" Mistystorm replies.

"Can I speak to you? Bearclaw and Sagepaw are already in the medicine cat den waiting for you." Cloudheart informs the younger cat.

"Sure." Mistystorm replies. Then, the two cats walk in the snow over to the medicine cat den together.

I wonder what this is for. Mistystorm thinks. Then, they walk inside.

"You three, please listen to me closely since this is very important. First, I will explain the prophecy to Mistystorm." Cloudheart meows.

"Mistystorm, I received a prophecy before you joined ShadowClan. It said that two small kits will grow into very strong cats, work together, and save all five clans from eventual doom." Cloudheart explains. "I was told that it will mean either the survival or downfall of the clans, so it is extremely important." She meows.

"Okay.. so.. what does this have to do with me?" Mistystorm asks.

"I had a sign in my dream last night." Cloudheart reveals.

"A sign?!" Bearclaw replies. "Do you think it has to do with the prophecy?" He asks Cloudheart.

"Yes, that's why I am telling you three about it." Cloudheart replies.

"So, why is Mistystorm here when you think it's about Bearclaw and I?" Sagepaw asks.

"I was about to get to that." Cloudheart replies. "In my dream, I was stuck in a terrible storm and I was surrounded by mist. I tried to find my way out, but I couldn't. Then, I woke up." She meows. "So.. since I was stuck in a misty storm in a dream the night after I told Bearclaw and Sagepaw about the prophecy, I think Mistystorm is one of the cats in the prophecy, not either Bearclaw or Sagepaw." Cloudheart reveals.

"Yes!" Mistystorm cheers. Then, she gets glares from the three other cats in the den. "I'm sorry." She quickly meows.

"So, that's what I wanted to tell you three." Cloudheart replies.

"I'm happy for you, Mistystorm, but I also wish we didn't have one of us left out of the prophecy." Bearclaw meows.

"I feel the same way." Sagepaw then says. "But, I don't think I'm one of the cats in the prophecy. I think it's the two of you. I am not worthy enough." She meows.

"Don't say that, Sagepaw." Bearclaw meows. "You're just as worthy as the rest of us, just in different ways. Mistystorm and I are warriors, while you're a medicine cat apprentice. We have different strengths." He meows.

"Wow, Bearclaw, I had no idea you were capable of saying things like that." Mistystorm comments.

"Now, Bearclaw and Mistystorm, you two can leave. Sagepaw needs to stay though since we're going to do some training." Cloudheart meows. Mistystorm and Bearclaw nod and then exit the den.

"I can't believe this.." Mistystorm meows.

"I guess you're officially a part of the prophecy you were upset about all day and night." Bearclaw meows.

"I don't know if I should feel happy or upset.." Mistystorm meows.

"Feel happy!" Bearclaw suggests. "Try to focus on the good things." He meows.

"Since when did you become so wise?! You've always been a mouse-brain!" Mistystorm comments.

"I guess I've matured a little." Bearclaw meows.

"Are you still scared of that spider?" Mistystorm meows, teasing her friend a little.

"Oh StarClan, don't remind me." Bearclaw replies. Mistystorm purrs with amusement.

"Hey, you two!" Toadpaw meows happily, dashing over toward the two warriors. "Guess what?" He asks them.

"What is it, Toadpaw?" Mistystorm asks.

"Icewhisker complimented me so much during training today! I'm so happy!" Toadpaw meows excitedly.

"Good job, Toadpaw!" Bearclaw meows. "I bet I can still beat you in battle practice though." He adds teasingly.

"You're probably right." Toadpaw replies. "Nettlepaw is easy to beat in battle practice because she's tiny, Frostpaw is too slow, and Icewhisker is old." He meows.

"Well, at least you're honest." Mistystorm replies with a purr of amusement.

"I got lucky while hunting and caught a fat squirrel!" Toadpaw says happily. "Want to share it with me and the other apprentices?" He asks.

"Sure." Bearclaw replies.

"Alrighty." Mistystorm replies.

"Okay then!" Toadpaw replies. Then, Mistystorm, Bearclaw, Sagepaw, Toadpaw, Frostpaw, and Nettlepaw all shared small pieces of the large squirrel together, chatting happily amongst themselves despite the cold.

Chapter 19

Bearclaw suddenly wakes up in his nest in the middle of the night to the sounds of cats howling. He opens his eyes, gets up, and quickly peeks out of the den along with many of the other warriors.

"It's SkyClan!" Bearclaw hears Applebranch meow angrily.

"ShadowClan, defend our camp!" Bearclaw then hears Ashstar yowl from outside. Bearclaw quickly exits the the den and fixes his gaze on a brown-and-white she-cat. He dashes towards the SkyClan warrior, leaping for her. The warrior notices him and quickly dodges, letting Bearclaw land hard on the ground with a thump.

"Missed me!" The warrior meows. Bearclaw lets out a growl. He gets back up and lunges for the SkyClan warrior yet again. But, he was successful this time. He tackles the warrior down to the ground and pins her. He then scratches the brown-and-white cat's cheek. The wound begins to bleed.

"You're not getting away with that, mouse-brain!" The SkyClan warrior meows, throwing him off her.

I thought Mistystorm said the SkyClan cats were easy to fight! Bearclaw thinks. His eyes widen as the SkyClan warrior tackles him down. Out of panic, Bearclaw scratches the she-cat's belly with one of his hind claws. She yowls from pain and then dashes off.

"I'm sorry Foxstar, but this young warrior is too strong!" The brown-and-white SkyClan warrior yowls as she runs out of ShadowClan's camp. Bearclaw looks around the rest of the camp and notices that his clan is having difficulties. Then, he spots him. A large and very muscular golden-brown tom leaps for Ashstar.

That has to be Foxstar! Woah, he's scary. Bearclaw thinks to himself. Before he could fully observe how the rest of the clan is doing, he is

tackled down to the ground yet again. He looks up to spot a gray tom. But, suddenly, the gray SkyClan warrior is thrown off of him.

"Leave him alone! If you want to hurt him, you'll have to go through me first." Mistystorm hisses. Bearclaw watches his friend in admiration. Both him and Mistystorm gang up on the tom, working together to fight him off. However, the gray tom flees before they get the chance to fight, realizing that he doesn't have a chance against the two of them.

"Good job, ShadowClan!" Bearclaw hears Swiftfang yowl. "Almost all of the SkyClan cats are gone! Save mourning until after the battle!" He yowls.

Mourning? Did a ShadowClan cat die? Bearclaw wonders in his head. *It's not time to think about that now, I need to think about helping my clan!* He thinks. The large brown tom notices that Ashstar is struggling against Foxstar, so Bearclaw decides to be bold and leap in. As Foxstar has Ashstar pinned, Bearclaw leaps for the intimidating leader, sinking his claws into his back. Foxstar yowls from the pain, releasing his pin on Ashstar. He turns to look at Bearclaw.

"Oh, getting brave, aren't we? You seem to be young, thus you must be pretty inexperienced." Foxstar meows. What Bearclaw did suddenly hits him.

Oh StarClan, why did I do that? Bearclaw thinks. Then, Bearclaw watches as Ashstar takes this chance to fight back. She leaps for the larger cat, tackling him down. She leaves a few scratches, which was enough for Foxstar to realize that his clan did not have a chance any more.

"SkyClan! Surrender!" Foxstar yowls. Then, Foxstar and the remaining SkyClan cats dash out of ShadowClan's camp and back towards their own territory. Bearclaw breathes heavily, worn out by the battling.

"Thank you, Bearclaw, for saving me. You are a strong warrior and you have a lot of potential." Ashstar meows.

"Thank you." Bearclaw replies. That's when Bearclaw decides to look around to observe the damage SkyClan has done to the clan.

"Sootkit! Dovekit!" Wolfclaw yowls in a panic. "They're missing! I can't find them anywhere!" The old queen yowls. "SkyClan must've stolen them.." She meows angrily.

"Don't worry, Wolfclaw. We will get them back as soon as we can, I promise." Ashstar meows in response. "SkyClan will pay for this." She adds.

Bearclaw's heart sinks and his world stops as he spots what he was hoping he wouldn't see. His fellow apprentice when he was apprentice and one of his closest friends, Toadpaw, lying lifeless on the ground. Blood is flowing out of a terrible wound in his neck, which Bearclaw assumes what caused the gray tom's death.

"Tigerstripe and Toadpaw are with StarClan now." Ashstar announces after she observed her own surroundings.

Tigerstripe too? My father.. Bearclaw thinks. He lowers his head, feeling a massive amount of grief.

"There will be vigils for the both of them the next night." Ashstar announces. "Those of you who are wounded, especially if you have major wounds, go and see Cloudheart and Sagepaw." She meows. "We will get back at SkyClan soon." She says. The clan was very upset for the entire day the next day. They were sad over the loss of a loyal warrior and a young apprentice and angry at SkyClan for killing cats and stealing kits.

Chapter 20

Ashstar has just arranged a rescue patrol to try to get Dovekit and Sootkit back from SkyClan. Both Mistystorm and Bearclaw were chosen to be on it since they are one of the warriors with only a few small wound from the battle the two nights previously. Ivyleaf was chosen to lead the patrol. The other cats on the rescue patrol are Graycloud, Icewhisker, Daisybloom, Applebranch, Smokefur, and Frostpaw. They exit ShadowClan's camp and walk towards SkyClan's territory.

"I am not familiar with SkyClan's camp, or even SkyClan's territory for that matter, but I think we should try to find a way to sneak in and take the kits back without any SkyClan cat noticing." Ivyleaf meows.

"That sounds like a good idea." Mistystorm replies, and everyone else agrees.

"After their attack, we should try to get the kits back without any wounds." Icewhisker replies.

It wasn't very long until they reached the border.

"Here we go." Daisybloom comments as the patrol walks across the twoleg path.

"I hope Dovekit and Sootkit are okay." Applebranch meows. "I was surprised that Wolfclaw decided to have another litter since she's quite old now. I won't be surprised if she moves into the elders' den soon." He meows.

"So you're calling me old too?" Icewhisker replies, a little offended.

"Well, you've lived for many, many moons now. Sometimes I even feel old. Whenever I feel old, I wonder how old *you* probably feel.

Then, I feel young again." Applebranch replies to his mother.

"You're so much like your father." Icewhisker comments.

"Cloudheart was always the better kit, wasn't she?" Applebranch asks. Icewhisker nods honestly.

"I wanted her to be a warrior though, but when she chose to become Acornfall's apprentice, I respected her decision. It's her life, you know." Icewhisker replies.

"Be quiet!" Ivyleaf scolds her father and grandmother. "There's cats over there." She meows, pointing at them with her tail. Mistystorm spots them.

I don't think these are SkyClan cats.. I don't think I've seen them before. Mistystorm thinks.

"Let's keep going, but we need to be as quiet as possible." Ivyleaf meows.

"Ivyleaf, you're a natural leader. You're a lot like your mother." Icewhisker comments quietly. The patrol continues to walk close together on the cold ground, using the trees and hills as ways to hide from any possible cats.

"Wait a minute, is that Blacktail?" Ivyleaf meows, looking off in the distance closely. Mistystorm decides to take a look and she sees him too.

"It is!" Mistystorm replies, feeling a bit of fear. The other cats begin to feel fear and hatred as well after spotting him.

What is he doing here?! What if he's... aligning with SkyClan? Mistystorm thinks.

"I told you to be quiet." Ivyleaf whispers.

"Sorry." Mistystorm replies.

"We better get going quickly. We have to find SkyClan's camp and get Dovekit and Sootkit back as soon as we can." Ivyleaf meows.

They continue to walk.

"Do you think.. there's any chance that they killed Dovekit and Sootkit..?" Bearclaw asks the others worriedly.

"No," Graycloud quickly replies to her kit. "If they wanted to kill them, wouldn't they have done it right away? They probably want to train them to become SkyClan warriors." She meows.

"Oh, that makes sense." Bearclaw replies to his mother.

"She's too smart to be my kit." Smokefur comments with a purr of amusement. Some of the other cats on the patrol purr with amusement as well.

"Oh, that must be it." Ivyleaf whispers, looking over at what seems to look like it would be a camp.

"I don't think there's a way we can sneak through without being noticed.." Applebranch meows.

"I guess we might have have to fight then. But, we would do anything to get Dovekit and Sootkit back, so let's try our best." Ivyleaf replies.

"They would probably be in the nursery, right?" Frostpaw asks.

"Most likely." Ivyleaf replies. "Let's go." She meows, leading the way. The rest of the rescue patrol follows. They quickly and quietly pad into SkyClan's camp, hoping to not be noticed. Then, it happened.

"Hey! ShadowClan cats! What are you doing here?!" A black warrior growls. Then, the entire camp's eyes are on them. Mistystorm hears a few growls.

"We're here to save Dovekit and Sootkit." Ivyleaf steps up bravely.

"Oh, you must be Ivyleaf?" Foxstar meows as he exits his den, looking at the rescue patrol. "I've heard a lot about you. Good things, actually." He meows.

"Can you please let us have our kits back? We don't want a battle,

but we are willing to fight for our kits." Ivyleaf replies.

"They're in the nursery with Bristlefur." Fozstar replies. "They are good kits. They get along very well with Sorrelkit and Pinekit already and Bristlefur is taking good care of them. They will definitely become great SkyClan warriors in the future. They seem to be hitting six moons very soon." Foxstar meows.

"No, they will be great *ShadowClan* warriors in the future." Ivyleaf snaps back.

"Feisty, huh?" Foxstar responds with a purr of amusement. "How about we make a deal. You take one kit back, we keep the other. SkyClan needs more warriors." He meows.

"No! We want both of them!" Ivyleaf replies angrily. Mistystorm hides behind Bearclaw nervously. "How about we let the kits choose?" Ivyleaf suggests, believing with her whole heart that they will choose to go back home.

"Okay then, seems pretty fair." Foxstar replies. He then turns his head towards what seems to be the nursery. "Bristlefur! Bring Dovekit and Sootkit out!" He yowls. A ginger she-cat peeks out of the nursery with wide yellow eyes and nods. Then, she walks out of the nursery with both Dovekit and Sootkit trailing behind her. Dovekit and Sootkit get very excited once they spot the rescue patrol. They dash over to the ShadowClan cats.

"Did you come to save us?" Dovekit asks the patrol happily.

"Yes, we did." Graycloud replies.

"Yay! I want to go back to ShadowClan!" Sootkit replies.

"Yeah!" Dovekit meows happily. Mistystorm watches as Ivyleaf gives Foxstar a smirk as the kits cheer.

"Fine then, they're yours. Just remember that your clan will pay later on." Foxstar meows with a growl.

"Okay. Thank you Foxstar." Ivyleaf replies. "Let's head back to camp." She meows. Then, the patrol walks back to ShadowClan's

camp along with the two kits. Every cat returns safely.

Mission successful. Mistystorm thinks.

Chapter 21

A/N: Can you believe it? We're more than halfway through the book now! 20 more chapters to go! Also, fun fact, at this point in Addertooth's story, Hawkstar and Acornfall were already kicked out of ShadowClan. That was nearing Addertooth's Story's ending, but this chapter is only a little bit over halfway through the book. Plus, Sagepaw isn't even a full medicine cat yet! At this point in Addertooth's Story, Addertooth was already a father! Interesting, huh? Now, let's get on with the new chapter.

Sagepaw pads into the medicine cat den, approaching her mentor, Cloudheart.

"Is there anything you need me to do right now?" Sagepaw asks.

"Actually, yes." Cloudheart replies. "I found a nice patch of borage near the RiverClan border. Can you go grab a bit for me?" She asks her apprentice.

"Of course." Sagepaw replies, exciting the medicine cat den. She then begins to exit ShadowClan's camp alone, walking towards the RiverClan border. She begins to dread doing this after only a little while.

Well, at least it's not near SkyClan's territory. Sagepaw thinks, a shiver running down her spine.

Soon, after quite a bit of walking, Sagepaw finally reaches the RiverClan border. Right there, she spots it. A beautiful patch of borage sits right next to the thunderpath, its blue flowers sticking out of the snow.

It's amazing that this is still alive in this cold. It must be a miracle from StarClan. Sagepaw thinks.

"Hello." Sagepaw then hears an unfamiliar voice meows. The silver

tabby looks around frantically, trying to figure out where the voice came from.

"I'm right here, silly." The cat meows with a purr of amusement. Then, she looks directly at him. There stands a handsome dark brown tom. Sagepaw can't help but feel a little shy and nervous.

"H-Hi." Sagepaw replies shyly, looking away yet again.

"Who are you and what are you doing here alone?" The dark brown tom asks her.

"No, w-what are *you* doing here alone?" Sagepaw replies.

"I was just taking a stroll. I just walked out of camp, decided to visit the thunderpath, saw a stunning ShadowClan she-cat, and so I decided to approach her." The dark brown tom replies, who has a strong RiverClan scent.

"That's n-nice." Sagepaw replies nervously.

"Hey, no need to be nervous. I won't bite you, maybe." The tom meows with a purr of amusement after the "maybe.' "I'm just kidding. I seriously won't bite you." He meows. "How about you? Who are you and why are you here?" He asks.

"I'm S-Sagepaw. I'm ShadowClan's medicine cat apprentice." Sagepaw replies.

"Oh, that's neat." The dark brown tom replies. "I'm an apprentice too!" He meows happily. "My littermate is a medicine cat apprentice too. You may know her. Her name is Rainpaw." He meows.

"Yeah, I saw her at the moonpool the past half-moon." Sagepaw replies. "Now, what your name?" She asks the apprentice.

"My name is Stonepaw. Primrosefrost is my mentor." The dark brown tom replies.

"I-It's very nice to meet you Stonepaw." Sagepaw meows.

"It's nice to meet you too, Sagepaw!" Stonepaw replies. "Let's be

friends." He suggests.

This is sudden. Sagepaw thinks.

"O-Okay." Sagepaw replies, finally making eye contact with the tom again, looking into his yellow eyes.

"Yay!" Stonepaw meows happily. "I don't really have many friends other than Rainpaw since we're the only apprentices, so it's nice to have another friend around my age." He meows. Sagepaw nods in response.

"So, let's learn a little bit more about each other." Stonepaw meows.

I'm quite interested to learn more about Stonepaw. He catches my attention. Sagepaw thinks.

"Okay." Sagepaw replies. "You go first." She meows.

"My mother is named Doestep and my father is Cloverstar, the clan leader! I hope to become a warrior really soon. My favorite fresh-kill is fish. What else do you expect from a RiverClan cat? As you already know, my mentor is Primrosefrost and my littermate is Rainpaw. I love to swim. Now, how about you?" Stonepaw meows.

"My mother is named Graycloud and my father was named Tigerstripe. I used to be a warrior apprentice, but now I'm training hard to become a medicine cat. My favorite fresh-kill is probably squirrel. My mentor is Cloudheart and I have a littermate named Bearclaw and an adoptive littermate named Mistystorm." Sagepaw replies.

"Wow, you seem really interesting." Stonepaw replies.

"So do you." Sagepaw replies.

"Has any cat ever told you that you're really pretty?" Stonepaw asks.

"Yeah, a lot of times, actually, but I don't really believe it." Sagepaw replies, feeling a wave of nervousness again.

"It's true, Sagepaw. Your silver fur and icy blue eyes fit each other

so well. When I first saw you, I wondered if you were a SkyClan cat." Stonepaw admits.

"Well, thank you for the compliment, I guess." Sagepaw replies, starting to purr a little thanks to the sweet words her new friend said to her.

"I should probably go now. My clan might be wondering where I am." Stonepaw meows. "Want to meet here again the night before the next half moon?" He asks the silver tabby.

"Yes, I'd love to." Sagepaw replies.

"Great! See you then!" Stonepaw meows happily. Then, the dark brown tom walks away. Sagepaw grabs the borage in her jaws and pads back to camp. When she got back, she gave Cloudheart the borage.

"Thank you, Sagepaw. What took you so long?" Cloudheart asks.

"I had a hard time finding it." Sagepaw lies.

"Oh, okay. Let's do a little bit of training." Cloudheart meows.

Chapter 22

A/N: Sorry this chapter is so short!

Bearclaw returns from going on dawn patrol, dashing happily back into camp in front of the rest of the patrol. He spots Mistystorm and charges towards her, tackling her down to the ground. Mistystorm lets out a surprised meow.

"Hey!" Mistystorm meows. "Where did that come from?!" She asks.

"I don't know, I just wanted to play around a little." Bearclaw replies. "You should've seen your face!" He meows, pinning the gray she-cat down to the ground.

"Can you get off me now?" Mistystorm replies, but she can't help but purr a little.

"Oh, sorry." Bearclaw meows, getting off of the she-cat.

"Let all cats old enough to catch their own prey join here beneath the high branch for a meeting!" Bearclaw suddenly hears Ashstar's voice call. The two warriors then move closer to the high branch.

"Two young kits have reached the age of six moons and are ready to become apprentices." Ashstar announces.

Oh! Dovekit and Sootkit are becoming apprentices! I'd like to train one of them. Bearclaw thinks.

Bearclaw watches as the two kits walk over to where the clan is gathered. Wolfclaw, the kits' mother, follows behind them. She sits down with the two kits.

"Sootkit, you have reached the age of six moons, and it is time for you to be apprenticed. From this day on, until you receive your warrior name, you will be known as Sootpaw. Your mentor will be Graycloud. I hope Graycloud will pass down all she knows on to

you." Ashstar says, her icy gaze looking down at the kit, but then it shifts over to Bearclaw's mother. "Graycloud, you are ready to have your first apprentice. You have received excellent training from Ivyleaf and you have shown yourself to be a kind and brave warrior. You will be the mentor of Sootpaw, and I expect you to pass on all you know to him."

Sootpaw walks over to Graycloud and touches noses with the warrior.

"Sootpaw! Sootpaw!" The clan cheers.

Then, Ashstar's gaze changes. Bearclaw watches as it shifts over to Dovekit.

"Dovekit, you have also reached the age of six moons, and it is also time for you to be apprenticed. From this day on, until you receive your warrior name, you will be known as Dovepaw. Your mentor will be Moonheart. I hope Moonheart will pass down all she knows on to you." Ashstar says, her gaze shifts over to the tabby she-cat. "Moonheart, you are ready to take on your first apprentice. You have received excellent training from Applebranch, and you have shown yourself to be a skilled and faithful warrior. You will be the mentor of Dovepaw, and I expect you to pass on all you know to her."

Bearclaw watches as Dovepaw dashes over to Marshshade. They then touch noses. "Dovepaw! Dovepaw!" The clan cheers.

"The clan meeting is now dismissed." Ashstar then meows, leaping down from the high branch.

Mouse-dung! No apprentice yet! Bearclaw thinks.

Chapter 23

It is the night before the half moon. Sagepaw sneaks out of camp, going to meet up with Stonepaw again as they had planned. She walks through the darkness, a cold breeze blowing her silver fur.

I am very excited to see Stonepaw again! Sagepaw thinks happily as she walks. It is very cold out, but she would do just about anything to see the RiverClan tom again. She continues to walk towards the thunderpath. Then, the thunderpath is in her sight. Sagepaw spots Stonepaw standing at the other side. She lets out a small purr as her walks quickens up to a run. Stonepaw spots Sagepaw and begins to purr as well.

"Hey Sagepaw!" Stonepaw meows. "I'm glad to see you again!" He says.

"I'm glad to see you again too, Stonepaw!" Sagepaw meows happily.

"Stonepaw? Who's that?" Stonepaw replies.

"What do you mean? You're Stonepaw, right?" Sagepaw asks, tilting her head with confusion.

"I used to be." Stonepaw replies. "I'm Stone*foot* now!" He meows happily.

"Oh, you're a warrior now!" Sagepaw replies happily. "That's great! Congratulations!" She meows.

"Thank you!" Stonefoot replies happily. "Hey, want me to show you some of the things I learned? Maybe I can teach you how to swim?" He asks.

"Oh.. sure, I guess. I probably won't be good though." Sagepaw replies.

"No cat is good at swimming at first, even RiverClan cats." Stonefoot meows. "You just have to learn to get good at it and practice." He tells her.

"That makes sense." Sagepaw replies. "I can't believe I'm going to be a swimming ShadowClan medicine cat after this.." She mumbles.

"Who knows? You might need it someday." Stonefoot meows. "Let's go over to the lake." He says. The two cats then walked together bravely on the thunderpath, walking towards the greenleaf twolegplace where they won't be caught for crossing borders since no ShadowClan cat really dares to go through the greenleaf twolegplace.

"Thank StarClan it's leaf-bare. If it was greenleaf, we would be doomed by doing this, especially during the day." Stonefoot meows. Sagepaw nods in response. "I'll race you to the halfbridge!" Stonefoot suddenly meows, dashing on the thunderpath towards the halfbridge.

"Hey, wait up!" Sagepaw meows, running after the dark brown tom.

"I beat you!" Stonefoot meows happily once he got to the halfbridge. After a few more seconds, Sagepaw finally arrives as well.

"Well, you had a head start *and* you're more fit than me because you're a warrior!" Sagepaw replies. Stonefoot purrs with amusement.

"Now, let me teach you how to swim." Stonefoot meows happily. "Watch me closely." He advises, leaping off the halfbridge and into the water. Sagepaw watches closely and with concern from the edge of the halfbridge. Then, Stonefoot reaches the water's surface, keeping his head above the water.

"You have to hold your head up. The last thing you should do is let your head go underwater. That's how you can drown. Also, don't try to breathe while you're underwater." Stonefoot explains.

"I'm a medicine cat, not a mouse-brain." Sagepaw replies.

"I'm just saying." Stonefoot meows. "And, you must keep your legs

moving. It's like you're running through the forest, but you're not. You're swimming instead. Even if you're not moving, you have to keep paddling." He explains. "You can sink if you don't." He meows.

"Okay." Sagepaw replies.

"You paddle differently based on how you want to navigate, if you want to at all." Stonefoot meows. Sagepaw nods. "Want to give it a try? I'll be right here to help you." He asks.

"Yeah." Sagepaw replies. She looks down at the dark lake water, getting afraid to jump in.

"It's okay. I got you if anything goes wrong." Stonefoot assures Sagepaw.

"Okay. Here I come." Sagepaw meows. She then leaps off the halfbridge and into the dark water. She is completely underwater. She begins to panic, but then she remembers what Stonefoot told her.

Keep your head above water and move your legs. Sagepaw thinks. Then, she lifts up and begins to paddle with her legs, starting to go up towards the surface. Then, her head is finally above water. The silver she-cat begins to catch her breath.

"Phew, I was starting to get worried. I was about to go down and save you." Stonefoot meows, sounding relieved. "But, you're doing it! You're a quick learner. It took me a while to learn how to swim!" He meows. "I'm impressed." He adds.

"Thank you." Sagepaw replies with a purr.

"Now you know how to swim if you ever need it." Stonepaw meows. "Let's get out of the lake. We should probably head back to our own clans soon." He meows. The two cats then get out of the lake water together, swimming to the shore. Once they get out of the lake, Stonefoot shakes some of the water out of his fur and grooms himself a little. He purrs with amusement after seeing Sagepaw.

"You look miserable!" Stonefoot meows.

"Yeah, it's *freezing cold*!" Sagepaw exclaims. "How do you do this?!" She asks.

"I just got used to it. I'm cold too though. Swimming in leaf-bare isn't a very good idea, but I had fun. You should head back to your den where it's warmer." Stonefoot meows. Sagepaw nods, shivering from the cold. He gives Sagepaw a few licks.

"I'm sorry." Stonefoot meows.

"It's okay." Sagepaw replies.

"Well, I guess this is goodbye. Want to meet up again the night before the next full moon?" Stonefoot asks Sagepaw.

"Sure!" Sagepaw replies happily.

"Yay!" Stonefoot meows excitedly. "Hopefully you become a full medicine cat tomorrow. See you soon! I hope you dry up and get warm very soon!" He adds.

"See you and thank you!" Sagepaw replies. Then, the two cats go back to their separate sides of the thunderpath.

Chapter 24

Sagepaw exits ShadowClan's camp along with her mentor, Cloudheart. Today was a lot warmer than the previous days. It seems like newleaf is finally approaching. Sagepaw walks alongside Cloudheart as they walk towards the moonpool.

"This is your fourth time, correct?" Cloudheart asks Sagepaw. Sagepaw nods in response. "I'm very proud of you, Sagepaw. You are such a great apprentice and a very quick learner." She meows.

Where did that come from? Sagepaw thinks.

"Thank you, Cloudheart." Sagepaw replies, purring a little.

Soon, the two cats finally arrived at the moonpool.

"Hey, Cloudheart and Sagepaw are here!" Berrybush meows happily.

"Hello all of you." Cloudheart meows. "I'm assuming Littlepoppy and Maplepaw won't be at this meeting either?" She meows.

"I'm afraid we won't see them here for a while. The same goes with SkyClan at gatherings." Goldenfeather meows, sitting beside her apprentice, Aspenpaw.

Then, at that moment, Blizzardsnow and Rainpaw arrive.

"Hello Blizzardsnow." Berrybush meows.

"Hey." Blizzardsnow replies, walking up towards the moonpool with Rainpaw trailing behind him.

"Since everyone is here, shall we get started?" Goldenfeather meows. All of the medicine cats nod. "Okay. Are there any announcements or news that any of you would like to share?" She asks.

"Greencough surprisingly was not a major issue this leaf-bare for WindClan." Berrybush meows. "We only had one case, but the cat that caught it survived and it did not spread. There were a few cases of whitecough, but it is not as harsh as greencough, so there weren't many worries." He meows.

"It was pretty much the same for RiverClan." Blizzardsnow meows. "I'm honestly surprised." He adds.

"And for ThunderClan." Goldenfeather meows.

"The same goes for ShadowClan, actually." Cloudheart meows.

"Well, I'm glad that this was a pretty mild leaf-hare for the clans." Goldenfeather comments. "Any other news?" She asks the other medicine cats.

"Yes." Cloudheart meows. "I am satisfied with Sagepaw's knowledge and I believe she is ready to become a full medicine cat." She meows. This catches Sagepaw by surprise, as well as the other medicine cats.

"This early on in her training?" Blizzardsnow questions. Cloudheart nods.

"She is very skilled and talented. She learned very quickly and I believe she is ready to become a full medicine cat." Cloudheart meows.

Wow! I can't believe it! Sagepaw thinks.

"So.." Cloudheart meows, looking over at Sagepaw and purring with pride. "I, Cloudheart, medicine cat of ShadowClan, call upon my warrior ancestors to look down on this apprentice. She has trained hard to understand the ways of a medicine cat, and with your help she will serve her Clan for many moons. Sagepaw, do you promise to uphold the ways of a medicine cat, to stand apart from rivalry between Clan and Clan and to protect all cats equally, even at the cost of your life?"

"I do." Sagepaw replies, purring a little.

"Then by the powers of StarClan I give you your true name as a medicine cat. Sagepaw, from this moment you will be known as Sagepool. StarClan honors your kindness and knowledge and we welcome you as a full medicine cat of ShadowClan." Cloudheart meows. Then, Cloudheart rests her muzzle on Sagepool's head and Sagepool licks Cloudheart's fluffy shoulder.

"Congratulations, Sagepool." Goldenfeather meows.

"Yes, congratulations Sagepool. You will be a great medicine cat." Berrybush meows.

"Thank you." Sagepool replies.

"Now, shall we receive messages from StarClan?" Goldenfeather asks. The other medicine cats nod. Sagepool then laps from the moonpool. Eventually, she falls asleep. She opens her eyes to find herself in StarClan yet again.

"Congratulations, Sagepool. I'm very proud of you." She hears a familiar voice meow. She quickly turns her head to spot Acornfall.

"Thank you, Acornfall." Sagepool replies with a respectful nod.

"Ever since I learned about you after your birth, you've caught my interest. You are a very interesting cat with a very interesting destiny. You are very special, Sagepool, just not in the way you may think." Acornfall meows.

What does that mean? Sagepool thinks.

"Thanks again." Sagepool meows.

"You remind me a lot of myself when I was young and alive." Acornfall meows. "We are kin, after all." He meows.

"Really?" Sagepool replies, tilting her head.

"Yes. Remember the stories about Addertooth you were told as a kit?" Acornfall asks.

"Of course. He was Tigerstripe's father." Sagepool responds.

"Addertooth was my kit." Acornfall meows.

"Wow! I never knew that." Sagepool meows, a bit surprised.

"Well, now you know." Acornfall meows with a purr. "It should be around time for you to wake up. Remember that I'll always be here for you." He adds.

"Okay, goodbye." Sagepool tells him.

"Goodbye!" Acornfall replies. Then, Sagepool wakes up.

"Oh, you're awake!" Cloudheart meows once she sees Sagepool open her eyes. "Let's head back to camp." She meows. Then, the two medicine cats walk back to ShadowClan's camp together.

Chapter 25

"Bearclaw, I need to speak to you in private." Cloudheart says to him so suddenly. Bearclaw was just minding his own business after eating a skinny mouse when she came to him so urgently.

"Oh.. okay." Bearclaw simply replies.

"Okay, come inside the medicine cat den with me. Sagepool is out looking for herbs, so she won't be there." Cloudheart meows. Bearclaw just nods and follows the fluffy medicine cat into the medicine cat den.

"So, what is it that you need to speak to me about?" Bearclaw asks, starting to get curious about what it may be.

"I had a dream last night." Cloudheart meows. "I think it has to do with the prophecy, especially regarding you." She tells him.

"That's interesting.." Bearclaw replies. "Can you tell me more?" He asks her.

"In the dream, I was attacked by a bear using its claws. It was pretty terrifying, but after I woke up I thought to myself. Bear... Claws... Bearclaw!" Cloudheart meows. "I have no idea why everything is so clear but, you're the second cat in the prophecy! The prophecy is about you and Mistystorm!" She meows, obviously overreacting about the whole thing.

"Are you okay, Cloudheart?" Bearclaw asks with concern.

"Yeah, I'm just thinking about the dream. It wasn't just me who was attacked by the bear, so the dream was horrifying." Cloudheart replies, taking a few deep breaths.

"Who else was attacked by the bear? Whoever it is, they must be

important to you." Bearclaw meows.

"Oh, you don't know her. She joined StarClan long before you were born." Cloudheart meows. "My dream was both a nightmare and a sign put into one." She meows. "It makes me worry about her. You know that the spirits of cats can be killed too, right? Then, they would be completely wiped out from existence." She continues to ramble on.

"It's okay. I bet she's okay. It was just a nightmare." Bearclaw meows, trying to calm the medicine cat down.

"I'm sorry, Bearclaw. The dream just really bothered me." Cloudheart apologizes.

"No, it's okay. You have nothing to apologize for." Bearclaw meows. "Now, am I allowed to tell Mistystorm about this?" He asks. "Or Sagepool?"

"Only Mistystorm. We have to wait for the right time to tell Sagepool. I don't want her feelings to be hurt." Cloudheart replies.

"Okay." Bearclaw replies.

Poor Sagepool. I feel really bad about the fact that she's not a part of the prophecy. She was really excited about it. I would give my spot to her if I could, but I know she will shine without being a prophecy cat. She's that good. Bearclaw thinks.

"Thank you." Bearclaw then tells Cloudheart.

"Oh, you're welcome! Good luck! If you have any questions about the prophecy, I will try to see if I can answer. If I get any more signs about the prophecy, I will let you and Mistystorm know." Cloudheart replies.

"Okay!" Bearclaw meows, leaving the medicine cat den.

Now, I just have to wait for he right time to tell Mistystorm. Bearclaw thinks.

Future Plans

So, I have future plans.
The book I have about the rabbits will sadly be cancelled and I will delete what I have soon.
Once all around 40 of the chapters of this book are finished, I will have a new number one priority. There will be a sequel to this book. But, it will be in super edition style like Addertooth's Story. A lot of it is already planned out. I already have the main character picked out and everything. I'm debating on whether or not to reveal the title though. Should I?

UPDATED ALLEGIANCES

SHADOWCLAN

LEADER Ashstar— Gray she-cat with blue eyes

DEPUTY Swiftfang— Black tom with yellow eyes

MEDICINE CATS Cloudheart— White she-cat with blue eyes
Sagepool— Silver tabby she-cat with blue eyes

WARRIORS Applebranch— Ginger tom
Smokefur— Dark gray she-cat
APPRENTICE, Frostpaw (white tom with odd eyes)
Daisybloom— Gray-and-white tabby she-cat with one blind eye
Ivyleaf— Ginger she-cat
APPRENTICE, Nettlepaw (gray tabby she-cat)
Moonheart— Gray tabby she-cat
APPRENTICE, Dovepaw (gray she-cat)
Graycloud— Gray she-cat with blue eyes
APPRENRICE, Sootpaw (dark gray-and-white tom)
Thornpelt— Gray-and-white tom
Bearclaw— Brown tom with green eyes
Mistystorm— Gray she-cat with green eyes

QUEENS N/A

ELDERS Icewhisker— White she-cat
Wolfclaw— Gray tabby she-cat

THUNDERCLAN

LEADER Briarstar— Gray tabby tom

DEPUTY Thistleseed— Golden-brown tabby she-cat

MEDICINE CAT Goldenfeather— Ginger-and-white she-cat
APPRENTICE, Aspenpaw (cream she-cat)

WARRIORS Oakbranch— Dark cream tom
Paledawn— Cream she-cat
Lionpounce— Ginger tom
Lilypetal— White she-cat
Sparrowfeather— Brown tom
Russetpelt— Ginger she-cat
Rosethorn— Brown-and-white she-cat
APPRENTICE, Eaglepaw (brown tom)
Violetmoon— Cream she-cat
Waspclaw— Pale gray tabby tom
Lightingstrike— Ginger tom
Branchfall— Brown tom
Snowyleaf— Brown-and-white she-cat

QUEENS N/A

ELDERS Dappledpelt— Tortoiseshell-and-white she-cat

WINDCLAN

LEADER Mudstar— Brown tom with hazel eyes

DEPUTY Snakefang— Gray tabby tom

MEDICINE CAT Berrybush— Gray tabby tom

WARRIORS Dovewhisper— Gray she-cat
Sunflame— Ginger tom
Stagdust— Brown tabby tom
Hazelclaw— Tortoiseshell she-cat
Yelloweyes— Black she-cat
Rabbitear— Pale brown tom
Quickstep— Gray tabby tom
Ravencall— Black tom
Petalstorm— Tortoiseshell she-cat
Stonefall— Gray tom

Meadowbreeze— Brown she-cat
Deerleap– Brown she-cat
Dogfang– Brown tabby tom

QUEENS Breezewhisker— Tortoiseshell she-cat (expecting Dogfang's kits)

ELDERS Weedwhisker— Brown tom

RIVERCLAN

LEADER Cloverstar— Brown tom

DEPUTY Minnowfur— Silver tabby she-cat

MEDICINE CAT Blizzardsnow— White tom
APPRENTICE, Rainpaw (black-and-white she-cat)

WARRIORS Duskshadow— Black-and-white she-cat
Moonfeather- White she-cat with black splotches
Primrosefrost— Pale brown tabby she-cat
Darkcloud- Black tom
Doestep— Black-and-white she-cat
Puddlesplash— Brown-and-white tom
Shellclaw— Brown she-cat
Floodstream— Gray tabby tom
Shadebush— Black she-cat
Stonefoot— Dark brown tom with yellow eyes

QUEENS N/A

ELDERS Sandfern- Pale ginger tom
Reedstorm- Brown tabby tom

SKYCLAN

LEADER Foxstar— Golden-brown tom

DEPUTY Badgerscar— Black-and-white tom

MEDICINE CAT Littlepoppy— Golden-brown tabby she-cat
APPRENTICE, Maplepaw (ginger-and-white tom)

WARRIORS Birchleaf— Brown-and-white she-cat
Lightningclaw— Dark brown tom
APPRENTICE, Pinepaw (dark ginger tom)
Tawnytuft— Ginger-and-white she-cat
Eaglefeather— Brown tabby tom
Blossomsnow— Gray-and-white she-cat
Echowhisper— Gray she-cat
Robinflight— Dark ginger she-cat
APPRENTICE, Sorrelpaw (tortoiseshell-and-white she-kit)
Bristlefur— Ginger she-cat
Crowshadow— Black she-cat
Jaywing— Gray tom
Nightshadow— Black tom

QUEENS N/A

ELDERS N/A

CATS OUTSIDE THE CLANS
Blacktail— Black tom with yellow eyes

Chapter 26

"Daisybloom. Lead a hunting patrol. Take Thornpelt, Mistystorm, Bearclaw, and Ivyleaf and Nettlepaw with you." Swiftfang meows. Mistystorm nods and looks for Daisybloom. She then spots her close to the camp's exit. She pads over to her. Soon, the whole patrol is gathered.

"Let's go." Daisybloom meows. The patrol then exits the camp together, walking out into the rest of ShadowClan's territory. The rest of the patrol follows the half-blind cat closely. However, Bearclaw and Mistystorm slow down, trailing behind the rest of the patrol.

"Mistystorm?" Bearclaw whispers.

"What is it?" Mistystorm asks in a whisper.

"Cloudheart had a dream. She believes that I'm the second cat in the prophecy. Like, she had a dream she was attacked by a bear with its claws." Bearclaw whispers.

"Like the dream she had about the storm where it was misting..!" Mistystorm realizes in a whisper.

"Yeah. I'm just worried about how we're supposed to tell Sagepool. She'll be heartbroken." Bearclaw whispers back.

"I don't even know what we're supposed to do with the prophecy. How are we supposed to save the clans when we don't know what we should do?" Mistystorm whispers.

"Exactly!" Bearclaw whispers back. "We should talk to Cloudheart after the patrol." He whispers. Mistystorm nods in response.

"You two, catch up!" Daisybloom meows from ahead of them.

"Oh, sorry." Bearclaw quickly meows. The two cats then catch up to the rest of the patrol.

"Any signs of prey?" Daisybloom asks the rest of the patrol. They all respond with a shake of their heads.

"I don't smell a thing." Thornpelt comments.

"We need to keep on moving." Daisybloom meows. The patrol begins to walk faster through the territory. Then, Mistystorm catches the scent of squirrel. She stops, crouches low, and begins to follow the scent. Eventually, she spots the squirrel beside a tree. This is a risky catch, but Mistystorm decides to risk it anyways. She sneaks closer, trying her best not to make a single sound. Then, she leaps for the squirrel, catching it by surprise. She bites into the squirrel's neck, feeling it go limp in her jaws.

"Nice catch, Mistystorm!" Nettlepaw comments.

"Thank you, Nettlepaw." Mistystorm replies to the younger cat. The patrol continues to walk. Mistystorm continues to carry the squirrel in her jaws. Eventually, the patrol was finished with four pieces of fresh kill total. This includes Mistystorm's squirrel, Nettlepaw's mouse, Bearclaw's tiny snake, and Daisybloom's bird. The four pieces of fresh kill are placed in the fresh kill pile.

"Are you ready to go talk to Cloudheart?" Bearclaw asks Mistystorm. Mistystorm nods in response.

"Let's go then." Bearclaw replies. The two cats walk into the medicine cat den together, hoping Sagepool isn't in there. Unfortunately, when they walk inside, they see Sagepool sorting herbs.

"Hey Sagepool." Bearclaw meows, greeting his littermate.

"Oh, hey Bearclaw and Mistystorm. What's up? Are you hurt? Not feeling well?" Sagepool asks the two warriors.

"No, actually, we are just wondering where Cloudheart is." Mistystorm replies.

"Oh, okay. She's in the leader's den chatting with Ashstar." Sagepool replies. "See you two later." She meows.

"Okay, thank you." Bearclaw replies. Then, the two warriors exit the medicine cat den and pad towards the leader's den. The two cats walk inside slowly, being careful not to intrude on something they shouldn't.

"So, what does this prophecy mean for ShadowClan?" Ashstar asks Cloudheart.

"I have no idea, but it obviously is talking about a possible downfall of the five clans." Cloudheart replies.

"Speaking of the prophecy, hello Bearclaw and Mistystorm." Ashstar meows, warmly welcoming the two young warriors.

"We just want to ask Cloudheart something about the prophecy." Mistystorm tells her leader.

"Okay, go ahead then." Ashstar replies.

"How are we supposed to save the clans when we don't know what we should do?" Bearclaw asks Cloudheart.

"I don't know either, but my advice is to just follow your hearts. Do what you think is right. Eventually, you will know what you have to do." Cloudheart replies.

"Thank you, Cloudheart." Mistystorm replies with a respectful nod.

"Yes, thank you." Bearclaw then meows.

"You're welcome. Now, do what you need to do. I'm going to talk to Ashstar a bit longer." Cloudheart meows. The two young warriors nod and leave the leader's den.

That didn't really answer much. Mistystorm thinks as she exits.

Future Plans, Again

I am pretty much finished with the planning of the new story. It is a sequel to A Changed Fate and I LOVE this protagonist. They're probably my favorite out of the protagonists so far (Addertooth, Mistystorm, Bearclaw, Sagepool). I can't wait to write it! I'm trying to put a lot of thought into this story since A Changed Fate is pretty basic (oops).

Chapter 27

Frostpaw and Nettlepaw are out taking their warrior assessments. Their mentors believe they are ready, so they are taking them today. Mistystorm waits for her friends to return impatiently.

I really hope they pass it. Mistystorm thinks. She is bitting close to the highbranch beside Bearclaw.

"Come on, Frostpaw and Nettlepaw, I know you can do it. Do it for Toadpaw." Mistystorm hears Bearclaw say quietly.

"They should be done by now, right?" Mistystorm asks, getting a little worried.

"Yeah, they should be back any time now." Bearclaw replies. Then, like they called it, Frostpaw and Nettlepaw walk back into camp along with their mentors and Ashstar. The two young warriors watch excitedly as Ashstar heads towards the highbranch, leaping up on it.

"Let all cats old enough to catch their own prey join here beneath the high branch for a meeting!" Ashstar calls out. The rest of the clan then gathers beneath the high branch.

"Today, two apprentices have passed their warrior assessments and are ready to become warriors of ShadowClan." Ashstar announces.

Yay! They did it! Mistystorm thinks.

"Frostpaw, please come forward." Ashstar says. Then, Frostpaw does what he is told.

"I, Ashstar, leader of ShadowClan, call upon my warrior ancestors to look down on this apprentice. He has trained hard to understand the ways of your noble code, and I commend him to you as a

warrior in his turn." Ashstar meows. She then looks down at Frostpaw. He looks back up at her happily.

"Frostpaw, do you promise to uphold the warrior code and to protect and defend your Clan, even at the cost of your life?" She meows.

"I do." Frostpaw then responds.

"Then by the powers of StarClan, I give you your warrior name. Frostpaw, from this moment on you will be known as Frostpath. StarClan honors your kindness and lightheartedness, and we welcome you as a full warrior of ShadowClan." Ashstar meows.

The clan begins to cheer his new warrior name. "Frostpath! Frostpath!" They cheer.

"Thank you so much, Ashstar!" Frostpath meows happily and steps back to where he was.

"Now, Nettlepaw, please come forward." Ashstar meows. Nettlepaw does what she is told. Mistystorm watches, proud of her friends.

"I, Ashstar, leader of ShadowClan, call upon my warrior ancestors to look down on this apprentice. She has trained hard to understand the ways of your noble code, and I commend her to you as a warrior in her turn." Ashstar meows. She looks down at Nettlepaw.

"Nettlepaw, do you promise to uphold the warrior code and to protect and defend your Clan, even at the cost of your life?" She asks the apprentice.

"I do." Nettlepaw responds.

"Then by the powers of StarClan, I give you your warrior name. Nettlepaw, from this moment on you will be known as Nettlebreeze. StarClan honors your hunting skill and loyalty and we welcome you as a full warrior of ShadowClan." Ashstar meows.

The clan then cheers her new warrior name. "Nettlebreeze! Nettlebreeze!" They cheer.

Ashstar leaps off of the high branch and rests her muzzle on both Frostpath's and Nettlebreeze's heads and the two new warriors each lick their leader's shoulder.

I feel bad that Toadpaw isn't with them. He wanted this so bad. Mistystorm thinks.

"The clan meeting is now dismissed." Ashstar announces and then walks off.

Mistystorm and Bearclaw rush over to their friends, excitedly.

"You're warriors now! Congratulations!" Bearclaw meows happily.

"We're so proud of the two of you and I bet Toadpaw is too!" Mistystorm meows.

"Thank you! I'm so happy!" Frostpath meows.

"So am I! You know what? We should go and celebrate!" Nettlebreeze suggests happily.

"I'm in!" Bearclaw meows.

"So am I!" Frostpath replies.

"So... how exactly are we going to celebrate?" Mistystorm asks, worried that they might do something that they're not supposed to do.

"We maybe should just walk through the territory and play around a little?" Nettlebreeze suggests.

"Sounds good to me." Mistystorm replies.

"Let's go then! Race you to the clearing!" Frostpath meows happily, dashing off towards the exit of the camp.

"Wait up!" The other three cats meow in unison, chasing after Frostpath. Nettlebreeze catches up to Frostpath last minute and beats him to the clearing.

"Ha! You had a head start and I *still* beat you!" Nettlebreeze claims. Mistystorm and Bearclaw then reach the clearing.

"This reminds me of the first time we did the training tradition here together." Frostpath meows. "I remember that Sagepool was disappointed when she didn't do well. Now, it turns out she wasn't meant to be a warrior all along." He meows. Bearclaw nods.

"This is kind of embarrassing, but I thought you were flirting with Sagepool and I thought Toadpaw was trying to flirt with Mistystorm." Bearclaw admits. "I felt so uncomfortable." He meows.

"I mean, who wouldn't flirt with Sagepool, even back then? She's super gorgeous. Too bad she chose the path of a medicine cat. It really fits her though. Plus, she's happy, so I'm happy too." Frostpath responds.

"Yeah, even as a she-cat, I think she's really beautiful." Nettlebreeze meows.

"We should've asked her to join us." Frostpath meows.

"Yeah.." Bearclaw meows.

"Anyways, let's keep on moving!" Nettlebreeze meows happily. "We're supposed to be celebrating, not reflecting!" She meows.

"You're right, let's go." Mistystorm meows. Then, the young warriors continue to walk around together.

Chapter 28

Sagepool sneaks out of ShadowClan's camp in the darkness of the night. The dim light of the almost full moon illuminates the night sky. She quietly pads over towards the RiverClan border, meeting up again with Stonefoot as the two of them have planned. Eventually, she arrives. She spots Stonefoot, who is already there at the other side of the thunderpath. Her walking quickens up to a dash as she gets closer to the border.

"Hey, Sagepaw! How are you?" Stonefoot meows once Sagepool comes close.

"I'm Sagepool now." Sagepool replies. "I'm a full medicine cat." She meows.

"Congratulations! You deserve it. Your name is pretty too." Stonefoot responds happily.

"Thank you." Sagepool replies. "How's your life as a RiverClan warrior?" She asks.

"Okay, I guess." Stonefoot replies.

"You guess?" Sagepool meows, tilting her head. "What's wrong?" She asks.

"Oh, it's nothing. I just get a lot of pressure from my clanmates, being the great Cloverstar's only warrior kit, you know?" Stonefoot replies. "I always feel like I need to fulfill my clan's expectations of me." He meows.

"Well, you don't have to fulfill their expectations. Stand up for yourself." Sagepool replies. "Make it known that you aren't perfect and you have, like every cat has, flaws." She meows.

"Thank you, Sagepool. I really appreciate your words." Stonefoot replies. "I just need to let them know that I'm not like my father." He meows.

"Yeah." Sagepool meows.

"Anyways, want to go swimming again?" Stonefoot suggests happily.

"No. Thank you." Sagepool replies.

"Come on, it's fun!" Stonefoot meows, trying to convince Sagepool.

"Or.. we can go to the island. I've never been there without all the clans being there. It will be just the two of us." Sagepool suggests.

"That sounds like fun, actually. We should do something new every time we meet up." Stonefoot meows. "We need to be careful when we cross the log bridge though." He meows. Sagepool nods in response. "Also, are you sure you can go? The log bridge is in RiverClan territory, remember?" He asks.

"Yeah, but the gathering is tomorrow. The other clans will be on RiverClan territory. My scent won't be caught since the clans will walk on RiverClan territory anyways." Sagepool meows.

"Okay, you have a point. I still hope you don't get caught though." Stonefoot meows.

"Don't worry about it. Let's go!" Sagepool meows happily, dashing acrosss the empty thunderpath, heading towards the log bridge. Stonefoot chases after her, making sure to follow exactly where she goes to try to mask her scent with his own. Soon, the two friends make it to the log bridge.

"She-cats first." Stonefoot comments once they get there. Sagepool gets onto the log bridge and carefully and slowly crosses it. Stonefoot follows close behind her. Soon, they both make it to the island.

"We're here!" Stonefoot meows excitedly. The two cats walk around the island, enjoying the beauty of it without all of the other cats

there.

"I've never really got to appreciate the beauty of this place since it's always filled with cats whenever I go." Sagepool meows.

"Me neither." Stonefoot replies. Soon, the two cats find a clearing, which is where the gatherings usually take place. The two cats lay down underneath the moon's light and begin to share tongues with each other.

"Your fur is really beautiful." Stonefoot meows as he grooms her.

"I like yours too. It's dark, but it's still brown." Sagepool meows in between licks. She begins to feel her pelt getting hot.

Do I like Stonefoot as more than a friend? Sagepool thinks. *I'm afraid I do.. and it seems like he might feel the same way.*

"I'm glad we can spend time together like this. I really enjoy your company." Stonefoot meows.

"Me too." Sagepool replies. Stonefoot stops grooming her and rests his chin on her flank. Sagepool can feel her pelt getting ever hotter.

"You're warm." Stonefoot comments. "It's chilly tonight, so you're really warming me up." He meows.

"You are too." Sagepool replies.

"I could fall asleep like this, but I know I shouldn't. We can't stay together like this for long." Stonefoot meows.

"Yeah, sadly." Sagepool replies. The two cats relax together underneath the silver light of the moon. Until, sadly, it was time for them to split apart.

"We should head back." Stonefoot meows.

"Yeah, you're right. It won't be much longer until dawn." Sagepool replies. The two cats then get up off the ground. They cross the log bridge again, with Sagepool leading the way. Stonefoot walks with Sagepool back to the border, trailing behind her to try to mask her

scent. Once they get back to the thunderpath, they say their goodbyes.

"Goodbye, Sagepool. I enjoyed my time with you tonight. Do you want to meet up again the night after the gathering?" Stonefoot asks.

"Sure, I'd love to." Sagepool replies. "Goodbye!" She meows.

"Goodbye." Stonefoot meows again. Then, the two cats go their separate ways.

Chapter 29

It is the next day. Bearclaw pads through ShadowClan territory beside Mistystorm. It is just the two of them. They left camp to discuss the prophecy.

"We still have no idea what to do about the prophecy." Mistystorm meows.

"Yeah.. do you think it will just come to us or will we have to do something first?" Bearclaw asks.

"I know just as much as you do, Bearclaw." Mistystorm replies as they begin to get closer to SkyClan's territory. Bearclaw lets out a sigh.

"It's an honor to be a part of a prophecy, but this is so frustrating.." Bearclaw meows.

"I agree." Mistystorm replies. Then, her eyes widen and she looks over at Bearclaw.

"Look, over there. Do you see that? It's Foxstar and Blacktail!" Mistystorm whispers. Bearclaw looks over and spots them. They just so happened to chat near the ShadowClan border. Mistystorm and Bearclaw crouch down low and sneak underneath a few bushes near the border, deciding to listen in on their conversation.

"So, what's the big plan?" Foxstar asks Blacktail.

"So, we are going to attack all of the clans and win. Then, we will unite all of the clans into one with you as leader and me as deputy." Blacktail meows.

"That sounds like a great idea, Blacktail! You truly are a clever cat." Foxstar replies. "We just need to find out how we are going to

accomplish it all. We need to have a master plan with perfect timing." He meows.

"Yeah, you're right." Blacktail meows. "How about we just brainstorm about it for some time and then discuss? We need lots of time to think about it for the plan to be perfect." He meows.

"Yes, that sounds good." Foxstar replies. "Let's head back to camp now." He meows. Then, Mistystorm and Bearclaw watch as the two cats walk away.

"Oh my god, talk about perfect timing!" Bearclaw meows once they have left.

"We need to tell Ashstar about this, as soon as possible!" Mistystorm meows. Bearclaw nods in response and the two cats dash back to camp to share the news with Ashstar. Once they get back to camp, they try to act calm in front of their clanmates, but they go straight towards Ashstar's den.

"Ashstar!" The two cats say in unison once they walk in.

"What is it you two?" Ashstar asks. "You two seem like you have something very important on your minds." She meows.

"Yes, we do." Mistystorm replies.

"We were just walking around the territory, discussing the prophecy. But then, when we got near the SkyClan border, we saw Blacktail and Foxstar chatting. So, we spied on them. We learned that they are planning to attack all of the clans and unite the five clans into one with Foxstar as the leader and Blacktail as the deputy!" Bearclaw explains.

"Oh, there's no way that will happen on ShadowClan's watch!" Ashstar replies in a big way, seeming pretty upset about the plan. "You two, keep on spying on them for me. We need to learn more about their plan so we can find a way to stop them. SkyClan is deadly enough by itself, but with Blacktail's rogues it will be very bloody if both of them attack us. Tell me everything you hear. We need to do something about this before it's too late." Ashstar meows.

"Yeah, we will make sure to do that, Ashstar." Mistystorm replies, nodding respectfully at her leader.

"How many times should we try to spy on them?" Bearclaw asks curiously.

"Maybe every few days or so." Ashstar suggests. "There's no way they're going to attack right away with that knowledge. Knowing Blacktail, they're going to discuss it a lot." She meows.

"Thank you, Ashstar." Bearclaw meows with a nod.

"Yes, thank you." Mistystorm meows.

"Now, you two can just relax for now. I bet hearing about that was a lot on both of you." Ashstar meows. The two young warriors nod and exit the leader's den.

Is this what the prophecy is talking about? Bearclaw thinks.

Chapter 30

It is the night after the gathering. Sagepool sneaks out of camp yet again to meet Stonefoot as planned. She walks towards the RiverClan border, excited to meet up with him again.

I think I should let him know how I really feel tonight. Sagepool thinks as she walks. Then, once she nears the border, she spots Stonefoot standing at the other side of the thunderpath. He had beat her there again.

"Stonefoot!" Sagepool meows happily, beginning to dash towards the thunderpath.

"Sagepool!" Stonefoot replies, happy to see her again. She then reaches the thunderpath.

"How are things?" Sagepool asks Stonefoot.

"Pretty good, especially since I'm here with you again." Stonefoot replies smoothly. Sagepool can feel her pelt getting hot again. "How about you?" He asks.

"I'm pretty much the same." Sagepool replies, feeling a little flustered. "Actually.. there's something I want to say to you tonight." She meows.

"Me too." Stonefoot replies. "You can go first though." He meows. Sagepool nods in response.

"Stonefoot, I love you. I love everything about you. Every time I'm near you, my heart beats faster and my pelt gets hot. I know I'm breaking many rules by doing this, but I just can't help myself. You're irresistible." Sagepool admit shyly.

"Sagepool.." Stonefoot replies softly. The dark brown tom begins to

purr. "I was about to say the same thing about you." He admits.

"You were?" Sagepool asks. Stonefoot replies with a nod.

"You're one of the only few things that make my life worth living right now." Stonefoot replies. "So, because of that, I have a proposition for you." He meows.

"What is it?" Sagepool asks curiously.

"Let's run away, Sagepool. Away from the lake, away from the code, and away from the clans. We will be happy and free that way. We can love each other with no limits. We can't keep on risking this. I don't want us to get caught. So, we can just run away, and our clans will accept us as dead." Stonefoot proposes.

"No." Sagepool replies.

"No?" Stonefoot asks, tilting his head.

"No. I won't run away with you." Sagepool replies.

"Why not?" Stonefoot asks the silver tabby.

"My clan needs me, Stonefoot. My position as medicine cat is very important. Also, there are cats in ShadowClan that I know will be very hurt if I disappear." Sagepool replies. "I love you very much, Stonefoot, but my clan is more important." She meows.

"Okay then. I understand that. So, we will keep on meeting up like this?" Stonefoot asks.

"Yes." Sagepool replies.

"Okay, I'm cool with that." Stonefoot meows. "As long as I still get to love you, I'm fine with anything." He comments. Sagepool begins to purr. The two cats walk up towards each other on the empty thunderpath, meeting up in the middle. They touch noses and then brush their cheeks against the other's.

I am not afraid of anything to show my love to you, Stonefoot. Sagepool thinks. Then, their faces separate.

"Do you want to meet up here every night from now on?" Sagepool asks Stonefoot.

"I'd love to, my love." Stonefoot meows. Sagepool's melt heats up and she purrs louder.

"Should we head back? I'm still very tired." Sagepool suggests.

"Yeah, we should. You went to the gathering last night. See you tomorrow night then." Stonefoot replies, giving Sagepool a lick on the forehead before going his separate way. Sagepool just watches the tom dash off, admiring him.

Oh, I've fallen, and I've fallen hard. Sagepool thinks. Then, she turns around and begins to walk back to ShadowClan's camp.

Chapter 31

A/N: 8 more chapters until the end!

It is a few days later. Mistystorm pads over to Bearclaw.

"Do you think we should go and try to spy on Foxstar and Blacktail now?" Mistystorm asks the tom.

"Sure, I think it's a good time to do so." Bearclaw replies. Then, the two warriors exit ShadowClan's camp together, walking side by side as they head towards the SkyClan border. Mistystorm stays in a state of deep though as the two of them walk together.

Bearclaw just gets more and more attractive and handsome as time goes on. Mistystorm thinks. *If I was told I would be like this back when we were apprentices, then I would be disgusted. But, I think my feelings for Bearclaw might be more than friendship. I'm not sure he feels the same way though.* She thinks. *Thinking back to when I was angry at him for meeting up with Rainpaw and when I worried about him while he was on patrol makes me think I might've had stronger feeling for him earlier than I thought. Maybe the prophecy will bring us closer together.*

"Are you okay, Mistystorm?" Bearclaw asks, noticing her odd expression.

"Yeah, I'm fine. I'm just worried about spying on Foxstar and Blacktail again." Mistystorm lies, feeling her pelt get a little hot.

"It's okay. I got you~" Bearclaw meows, partially teasing the gray she-cat.

Soon, the two cats reach the SkyClan border. They crouch down low, looking for any signs of either Foxstar or Blacktail, but there's nothing.

"Well, that was a waste." Bearclaw meows.

"Wait, let's walk along the whole border." Mistystorm meows.

"Okay." Bearclaw replies. Then, the two cats carefully walk across the whole border together. However, there is no sign of either Foxstar or Blacktail.

"Yeah, what a waste of time." Mistystorm comments. "Let's head back." She meows, beginning to walk back toward ShadowClan's camp.

"Mistystorm?" Bearclaw asks the other warrior.

"What is it?" Mistystorm replies, looking over into the tom's emerald eyes.

"I have something important I need to tell you, so listen very closely." Bearclaw meows.

"Okay, now *what is it*?" Mistystorm asks. She notices Bearclaw's nervous expression, waiting impatiently for what the brown tom has to say.

"I like you. Like, a lot." Bearclaw meows. "As more than a friend. Ever since we were apprentices, I thought you were beautiful, but every day you get more and more beautiful as you mature." He admits. "I had a small liking to you since were young apprentices. So, when Toadpaw flirted with you, I felt jealous and sick to my belly. After that, I started to meet up with Rainpaw, knowing that Toadpaw would probably win you over when we got older. But now, my feelings for you have grown uncontrollable and stronger. So, do you feel the same way?" He asks her. Mistystorm feels her pelt go very hot. Her heart is beating very fast.

I can't believe this! Mistystorm thinks.

"Yes, I do feel the same way. Back when we were apprentices, I would've been disgusted by the though of being mates with you in the future. But, now my feelings for you have blossomed and grown." Mistystorm admits.

"So, you'll be mates with me?" Bearclaw asks, his face lighting up with happiness. Mistystorm lets out a purr of amusement.

"Yes." Mistystorm replies happily.

"Yay!" Bearclaw cheers. "I'll beat you to camp!" He meows, dashing off.

"Hey, wait up! Mousebrain!" Mistystorm meows, chasing after her new mate.

Maybe leaving camp wasn't a waste after all. Mistystorm thinks.

Chapter 32

Sagepool has been meeting up with Stonefoot every night for a moon now without being caught. Sagepool is very glad that they haven't been caught yet, but something has been bothering her the past few days.

Her belly has grown even though she hasn't overeaten and she's been feeling ill from time to time. This has been severely bothering Sagepool. She can't stop thinking about it.

Oh StarClan, what if I'm expecting kits? How am I supposed to hide my secret from the clans then?! I'm a medicine cat and medicine cats aren't supposed to have a mate or kits, especially with a cat from another clan Sagepool thinks, worrying like crazy. *I need to talk to Stonefoot about this tonight.*

Sagepool successfully sneaks out of camp yet again, padding in the forest towards the RiverClan border. She eventually makes it, but she doesn't dash over to Stonefoot like she usually does, which makes him worry about her.

"Sagepool, are you okay?" Stonefoot asks his mate, his voice full of concern.

"Not really." Sagepool answers honestly.

"What's the matter, love?" Stonefoot asks. They stand on the empty thunderpath together.

"Stonefoot, I might be expecting your kits." Sagepool replies.

"What makes you think that?" Stonefoot asks.

"Well, my belly has gotten bigger and I haven't overeaten. Plus, I haven't felt the greatest." Sagepool admits.

"Oh.." Stonefoot replies. "Then.. I'm afraid we're expecting kits. You have been getting a bit larger recently. I noticed it too, but I was afraid to bring it up. Some she-cats are sensitive about that stuff, you know." He meows.

"Oh StarClan, Stonefoot! What are we going to do?!" Sagepool meows, beginning to panic. Stonefoot places his nose against Sagepool's and wraps his tail around her.

"Calm down, Sagepool. We're going to find a way out of this." Stonefoot meows.

"No, we aren't! I'm going to be exiled if they find out, Stonefoot! I can't just simply hide the fact that I'm expecting kits or the kits themselves when they're born!" Sagepool replies. She lets out a small wail and buries her face into Stonefoot's chest.

"I bet you'll find a way. You're the smartest cat I know." Stonefoot replies. "You can just pretend that you're gaining weight while you're expecting. But, when the kits are born, if there's no way for you to take care of them in ShadowClan, then I'll take care of them in RiverClan. I can just say that they're some abandoned kits that I found and the whole clan will believe me. That's only if there's no queens that can take care of them in ShadowClan though. It will be easier for the both of us if they stay in ShadowClan since they will probably be born on ShadowClan soil." He explains. "Everything will be okay, I promise." He meows. Sagepool begins to calm down a little.

"Thank you for everything, Stonefoot. I love you a lot." Sagepool meows.

"I love you too." Stonefoot replies. "I love our kits already as well. If they have your smarts and my battle skills, they'll be unstoppable." He comments, which makes Sagepool purr a little from amusement.

The two cats spent time on the thunderpath together for a little bit, until it was time for them to separate.

"Goodbye, Sagepool. I wish you the best of luck with kit thing tomorrow. See you again tomorrow night, my love." Stonefoot

meows.

"Goodbye and thank you! You shouldn't have made it so I'm expecting kits though!" Sagepool meows.

"It wasn't completely my fault! You were and still are completely in love with me!" Stonefoot replies. Sagepool lets out a purr of amusement before walking back to ShadowClan's camp.

Chapter 33

Mistystorm nudges Bearclaw awake.

"What is it?" Bearclaw groans.

"Let's go spy on SkyClan and Blacktail. I think it would be a good idea to do it at night." Mistystorm meows. "I have a good feeling about this one." She adds.

"I'd rather sleep, but I guess this is more important." Bearclaw meows, getting up out of his nest, stretching out.

"Let's go then!" Mistystorm whispers, trying not to wake up the other cats in the warriors' den.

"Okay." Bearclaw replies. Then, the two mates exit the warriors' den and exit camp, knowing that they have permission from Ashstar to. Not long after they exit, they spot Sagepool.

"Hey, Sagepool! What are you doing out here?" Bearclaw asks his littermate.

"I was just looking for herbs." Sagepool explains.

"This late?" Mistystorm questions.

"Yeah. Cloudheart suggested I should. I didn't have any luck though." Sagepool replies.

"Okay then. See you later!" Bearclaw meows.

"Yeah, see you later." Mistystorm also meows.

"Bye!" Sagepool replies, heading back towards ShadowClan's camp.

Mistystorm and Bearclaw continue to walk side-by-side through

ShadowClan's territory, heading towards the SkyClan border. Very soon, they make it. Once they get there, they are shocked to see Foxstar and Blacktail chatting nearby. Mistystorm lets out a small gasp and the two cats crouch low underneath a bush on their side of the twolegpath, listening on to the two cats' conversation.

"Foxstar, are you sure this is a good idea?" Blacktail asks the leader.

"Yeah, of course! They don't see it coming!" Foxstar replies.

Who is they? Mistystorm thinks.

"How exactly are we going to do this though? It won't be easy. ShadowClan is pretty tough and I say this as a former ShadowClan warrior." Blacktail replies.

"So, tomorrow night, when it's the darkest, we will have a sneak attack on ShadowClan's camp. We can jump down from the trees! They wouldn't see us coming! They will have no chance since we will catch them by surprise and we have more numbers than them." Foxstar suggests.

"That sounds smart, actually. They won't know what to do when SkyClan cats begin to come down from the trees. What's our main goal with this though? This isn't a part of our plan to unite the clans." Blacktail asks.

"Our main target should be to go for the stronger and more important cats. Ashstar and Swiftfang to be more specific. If they end up with no leader or deputy after our attack, they won't have any idea what to do. So, maybe you can take over." Foxstar suggests.

"That's a great idea, Foxstar. Should we go tell your clan and my rogues about this?" Blacktail asks.

"We will tomorrow during the day when everyone is awake." Foxstar meows. "We need to be prepared to fight to the death." He meows.

"Okay, got it." Blacktail replies.

Oh StarClan! This is a lot of information. Perfect timing too! We have to tell Ashstar and the rest of the clan about this as soon as possible tomorrow! Mistystorm thinks.

"Let's head back to camp." Foxstar meows.

"Okay." Blacktail replies. Then, Mistystorm and Bearclaw watch as the two villains walk off. Mistystorm immediately looks over at Bearclaw, giving him a fearful look. Bearclaw does the exact same to Mistystorm.

"We *have* to tell the rest of the clan about this and prepare ourselves." Bearclaw meows.

"You're right. If we don't, our clan could be in trouble." Mistystorm replies. Then, the two cats quickly head back to camp, getting there very soon. The both of them go back in their nests, but they are unable to fall back asleep with the next nights' battle on their minds.

Chapter 34

It is the night of the battle. The entirety of ShadowClan stays awake, waiting for SkyClan and the rogue's strike. They now have an advantage since they know their plan. If they did not know, ShadowClan knows they would be in trouble. The clan is very grateful for Mistystorm and Bearclaw, since they probably saved some lives or even their whole clan.

Bearclaw waits impatiently, sitting at an edge of ShadowClan's camp, waiting for any signs of their attackers. The clan has practiced battle skills and came up with their own plan all day. Now, they are ready to fight back.

Suddenly, Bearclaw's back arches once he spots SkyClan cats and rogues coming down from the trees. They seem stunned since ShadowClan was not sleeping in their dens like they expected.

"ShadowClan, chase them out!" Ashstar yowls. Then, ShadowClan cats begin to attack the SkyClan cats and the rogues. Bearclaw spots Blacktail and charges right towards him. He pounces on his former clanmate and successfully knocks him to the ground. Bearclaw kind the black tom down to the ground.

"Oh, Bearpaw. You've grown big and strong, haven't you?" Blacktail comments with a smirk.

"Yes, I'm Bearclaw now, and what about it?" Bearclaw meows.

"It will be an honor to take you down." Blacktail replies. Then, he uses his hind leg to successfully push Bearclaw off him while he was distracted. Blacktail then leaps for Bearclaw. He can hear many yowls coming from the cats fighting around him. Bearclaw is then knocked down to the ground. Blacktail pins him down.

"Not on my watch!" Bearclaw hears a familiar voice yowl. He then

watches as a familiar gray coat leaps for Blacktail and knocks him off himself.

"Mistystorm!" Bearclaw meows.

"I will take him down by your side!" Mistystorm yowls as she pins Blacktail to the ground and successfully leaves a few quick scratches on his chest. Bearclaw takes this opportunity to attack as well. He dashes closer and sinks his teeth into Blacktail's exposed shoulder. This makes the black tom yowl in pain.

"You have no chance, Blacktail. It's two against one. You and your rogues should retreat before things get worse." Mistystorm meows coldly. Blacktail's eyes widen from fear and the tom nods.

"Good. You can go now, only if you leave ShadowClan territory." Mistystorm hisses.

"Fine, fine." Blacktail replies. Mistystorm then releases the tom from her pin. Then, the two young warriors watch as their former clanmate runs off.

"Thank you so much, Mistystorm." Bearclaw meows, purring. "I was starting to think I was in trouble." He meows.

"I'd do anything to make sure you're okay, Bearclaw." Mistystorm replies, looking over at him with a loving gaze.

Bearclaw then looks around to see how the rest of the clan is doing. There are much less SkyClan cats and rogues than there were before. Plus, the remaining ones are now outnumbered. Not long after, all of the SkyClan cats and rogues have left ShadowClan territory.

"We did it, ShadowClan! There are no deaths, gratefully. But, if you're injured, go see Cloudheart and Sagepool." Ashstar meows cheerfully. "This wouldn't be possible without Bearclaw and Mistystorm." She adds, giving the two warriors a loving and proud gaze.

I think I might know what we need to do for the prophecy. We have to continue to spy on them and figure out all of their plans so we can save

the five clans. That makes sense! Bearclaw thinks.

Chapter 35

It has been a few days after the battle with SkyClan and the rogues. The past few days, Sagepool has been tending to wounds. But, her mind hasn't been on the battle wounds at all. Her mind has been focused on the kits inside of her. She has been wondering what she's going to do. It's been troubling her ever since she found out. She's been eating more so it just seems like she's been gaining weight, despite the fact that she has felt ill from time to time. So far, the rest of the clan has fallen for her trick. She has faith that no one will figure out while she's expecting, but she has no idea what she's going to do once the kits are born. She walks out of the medicine cat den, enjoying the warmer air. There is no other cat really close to her. Until, Ivyleaf approaches her.

"Sagepool." Ivyleaf meows.

"What is it, Ivyleaf?" Sagepool asks the ginger warrior. "Are you feeling ill?" She asks. Ivyleaf shakes her head in response.

"I want to speak to you in private. Most likely outside of camp, where no one can hear us." Ivyleaf meows quietly. A shiver runs down Sagepool's spine.

Oh no, has she found out? Sagepool thinks, feeling ill. *If she has... I'm in big trouble. She has always been a strict follower of the warrior code.* She thinks.

"Oh, sure. Let's go." Sagepool replies calmly, despite feeling nervous on the inside. Then, the two she-cat walk out of camp together, heading to a dense part of the forest in ShadowClan's territory. Once they arrive, the expression on Ivyleaf's face changes to one Sagepool has never seen before. Instead of a serious and calm face, it is one of worry.

"What's wrong, Ivyleaf?" Sagepool replies. Then, Ivyleaf's expression

goes back to her cold one.

"I have a secret, but I will only share mine if you share your own." Ivyleaf replies, looking at Sagepool's belly. Sagepool gulps nervously.

Oh, mouse-dung! She knows! Sagepool thinks.

"H-How did you know...?" Sagepool replies nervously.

"Any cat as smart as me can tell that you're expecting kits. So, who's the lucky tom?" Ivyleaf asks with a small purr.

Oh wow, I haven't seen this side of Ivyleaf before. Sagepool replies.

"Stonefoot. A RiverClan warrior." Sagepool replies honestly with a frightened tone.

"Ooh, interesting. Three rules broken at once. So you two have been meeting in secret?" Ivyleaf asks the silver tabby. Sagepool nods in response.

"Nice job keeping yourself hidden. No cat suspects a thing. You're clever." Ivyleaf compliments.

"T-Thank you.." Sagepool replies, still nervous. "What's your secret, Ivyleaf?" She asks the ginger she-cat.

"Oh StarClan, if you thought your secret was interesting, hear mine. I, too, am expecting kits." Ivyleaf announces.

Wow! I couldn't tell! Sagepool replies.

"And, what's the interesting part? The father?" Sagepool asks. Ivyleaf nods, looking away with a bit of shame in her eyes.

"Who is he? Tell me, Ivyleaf." Sagepool replies curiously.

"Sagepool, Blacktail is the father." Ivyleaf replies with a disappointed tone.

"Oh, poor you." Sagepool replies. "Poor kits too." She quickly adds.

"So, you two have been meeting in secret too?" She asks the ginger warrior. She replies with a nod.

"Oh wow... how did that happen? He murdered your littermate, didn't he?!" Sagepool asks. Ivyleaf nods.

"We were mates before the event, actually. Even after her killed our clanmates and got exiled, my heart couldn't stop myself from loving him. I will always think of him as the sweet tom I knew before." Ivyleaf replies.

"I'm... shocked." Sagepool replies. "Blacktail was never sweet for as long as I've known him." She adds.

"Well, he was sweet to me. He was someone I thought was just like me. But, he became sinister and evil.." Ivyleaf replies.

"I'm so sorry, Ivyleaf." Sagepool replies. "On another note, how are you doing?" She asks, going into full medicine cat mode. She looks over and notices Ivyleaf's expanded belly. To Sagepool, she seems to be just as far along as she is.

"I'm good physically. But emotionally? I'm not good." Ivyleaf replies.

"That's understandable." Sagepool replies.

"I promise to keep your secret. But, do you promise to keep mine?" Ivyleaf asks the medicine cat.

"I promise." Sagepool replies.

"Okay, good. The thing I wanted to ask about is that I would gladly take in your kits once they are born. I talked to the nicest tom in the clan, Frostpath, and he agreed to pretend to be the father of my kits despite being kin. I promise that your kits will be healthy under my care once they are born and your secret is safe with me." Ivyleaf suggests.

"Oh StarClan, that's perfect. Frostpath really is the nicest tom in the clan. Thank you so much, Ivyleaf. My words can't express how grateful I am for this. I've been worrying about it ever since I found out." Sagepool replies, purring from happiness.

"You're welcome." Ivyleaf replies, purring as well. "Our kits will know each other as littermates." She meows happily. "Should we head back to camp now that this is settled?" Ivyleaf asks the silver tabby.

"Sure." Sagepool replies. Then, the two pregnant she-cats walk back to ShadowClan's camp together.

Chapter 36

Luckily for the clans, a moon has passed with no battles against SkyClan and the rogues. During this time, ShadowClan has gained two new warriors, named Doveflight and Sootwhisker.

Even though things may seem perfectly fine for ShadowClan, Mistystorm and Bearclaw just gained information about Blacktail and Foxstar's evil plan to unite the clans under their rule. The two warriors hid underneath a bush and listening on to their plan. Mistystorm finally knows what the prophecy meant.

We will change the fate of the clans by spying on Foxstar and Blacktail and stopping their plans. We did not have to do much effort either, like we were worried. Everything came to us naturally, as if it was fate. Mistystorm thinks. The two sinister toms had just headed back to SkyClan's camp. Mistystorm quickly looks over to Bearclaw.

"We have to tell Ashstar about this *now*." She meows to her mate, the fur on her back sticking up a bit. The tom's green eyes are wide.

"Yes, let's go." Bearclaw replies. Then, the two cats dash towards ShadowClan's camp together. However, Mistystorm begins to lose her breath. Bearclaw stops himself and goes over to his mate.

"Are you okay, Mistystorm?" He asks her with strong concern.

"Yeah, I'm fine, let's keep going." Mistystorm replies.

"Sure, but we are walking the rest of the way. Do you feel sick? This isn't normal of you." Bearclaw meows.

"No, I feel fine. I think I just moved too quick and did not breathe correctly. It must be due to my fear after hearing Blacktail and Foxstar's plan." Mistystorm replies.

"Okay, let's walk now." Bearclaw meows, beginning to walk alongside Mistystorm.

Very soon, the two young warriors returned back to camp. They quickly head over to Ashstar's den, heading inside. Once they walk in, they hear a welcoming meow from Ashstar.

"Hello, you two. What's going on?" Ashstar asks.

"We heard Foxstar and Blacktail's plan to take over the clans." Mistystorm explains.

"They're going to have a surprise attack at the next gathering while it's going on!" Bearclaw tells his leader.

"Oh StarClan... thank you two so much. The clans would be in danger without you. Before the attack at the next gathering, I will make sure to inform the other leaders and to bring our strongest warriors to this gathering. You two might've just saved the clans. You might've changed our horrible fate to a good one." Ashstar explains.

"You're welcome, Ashstar. We are very honored to be a part of this." Mistystorm replies, while Bearclaw nods, agreeing with his mate's words.

"Now, you two can go on. I will make sure to inform the rest of the clan." Ashstar meows.

"Thank you, Ashstar." Bearclaw and Mistystorm meow in unison. Then, the two young warriors leave the leader's den.

"I can't believe what Foxstar and Blacktail are planning to do... that's just pure evil." Mistystorm meows.

"Yeah.. but imagine the look on their faces once they realize that we were prepared for their surprise attack. It will be like when they attacked us before, but even funnier since it was their master plan." Bearclaw replies. "We should tell Sagepool about this!" He meows.

"Yeah!" Mistystorm replies. The two cats then head over to the medicine cat den, walking inside to find Bearclaw's littermate, who

has seemingly gained quite some weight.

"Hey Sagepool!" Bearclaw meows happily.

"Oh, hey." Sagepool replies, looking over at her brother and his mate.

"SkyClan and the rogues are planning to attack at the gathering." Bearclaw meows.

"Yep." Mistystorm meows. "Also, when are you planning on losing some of that weight? You look like some of the kittypets I knew as a kit."

"Soon. I've been working on it. I guess that's what happens when you overeat and the only exercise you get is when you are looking for some herbs." Sagepool replies.

"That's good to hear." Bearclaw meows. "Anyways, talk to you later!" He meows happily. "Let's go, Mistystorm."

Then, the two mates leave the medicine cat den.

Foxstar and Blacktail will be stopped. Mistystorm thinks.

Chapter 37

Sagepool was sleeping peacefully in her nest when she feels a big nudge hit her shoulder. The silver tabby opens her eyes to spot Ivyleaf looking down at her, her eyes wide.

"Sagepool... I think I'm about to have my kits. How about you?" Ivyleaf asks, her eyes wide.

"Why in StarClan did you leave the nursery?" Sagepool asks quietly, trying her best not to awaken Cloudheart.

"I wanted to check in you, since I am going to pretend your kits are mine after all." Ivyleaf replies.

"I think I'm fine." Sagepool replies, slowing beginning to get up out of her nest. Then, that's when she feels a very sharp pain in her belly. She tries her best not to let out a sound. "Nevermind, I'm not fine. Mine must be coming to. Let's sneak out of camp, quickly." Sagepool meows. Then, the two she-cats who are luckily in labor at the same time sneak out of ShadowClan's camp together.

They walk towards the spot where they shared their secrets together. Eventually making it without having to stop due to the pain. The two she-cats then lay down, trying to make themselves comfortable on the wet forest ground. As they give birth, the two she-cats do not keep their eyes off each other and say a few encouraging words to each other.

"You can do it, Ivyleaf. You're the strongest she-cat I know! I'm sorry Mistystorm." Sagepool meows, despite being in pain. Soon, Ivyleaf gives birth to her kits first. There are two kits.

"Come on Sagepool, if I can do it, so can you!" Ivyleaf cheers. Not long after, Sagepool gives birth to three beautiful kits.

"Five kits are a lot for one she-cat to have in one litter, but I don't think it's impossible. We can pull this off." Ivyleaf meows. The two she-cats begin to nurse their newborn kits.

"So, what are you naming yours?" Ivyleaf asks Sagepool.

"I'm thinking about naming the dark gray tom-kit with a little bit of brown on him Owlkit since his fur reminds me of an owl's feathers." Sagepool replies. "I think Fawnkit fits the dark brown tabby she-kit because she reminds me of a little fawn. Also, Cinderkit would be a good name for the silver tabby. She looks so much like me." Sagepool meows. "How about yours, Ivyleaf?" She asks, still exhausted from giving birth.

"I'm think about naming she ginger she-kit Amberkit because of her fur and the black she-kit Blackkit also because of her fur." Ivyleaf replies.

"No." Sagepool replies.

"What?" Ivyleaf asks, a little confused.

"Don't name her Blackkit. That would make things too obvious. Choose a different name that goes along with her fur." Sagepool advises.

"Okay, fine. That makes sense." Ivyleaf replies. "Ravenkit then." She meows.

"That's much better." Sagepool replies.

"Should we head back to camp?" Ivyleaf asks the silver tabby.

"Yes, we shouldn't be out here for too long. Cats should be waking up for the dawn patrol soon." Sagepool meows. Then, Sagepool grabs her three kits by the scruff at the same time. They let out little squeaks and Sagepool can't help but feel warm inside.

Stonefoot, don't worry about our kits, they will be in good care. Sagepool thinks. *He would probably want to see them..* She thinks. She watches as Ivyleaf picks up her two kits by the scruff.

"Let's go." Ivyleaf meows. Then, the two cats walk back to camp together, happily carrying the newborn kits.

When they get back to camp, most of the clan was already awake. They are in shock to see Sagepool and Ivyleaf walk into camp with five kits. Sagepool takes this quick opportunity to explain, gently putting her kits down, being careful not to harm their fragile bodies.

"I went out looking for herbs early this morning and Ivyleaf said she had trouble sleeping and asked if she could come with me. I said she could, but while we were away from camp, Ivyleaf surprisingly gave birth to five kits. She was very lucky I was there to help her give birth. Congratulations to her and Frostpath. She also gave them names while we were outside of camp." Sagepool explains.

"The dark gray tom-kit is Owlkit, the dark brown tabby she-kit is Fawnkit, the silver tabby she-kit is Cinderkit, the ginger she-kit is Amberkit, and the black she-kit is Ravenkit." Ivyleaf explains with a muffled voice. The clan congratulates Ivyleaf and Frostpath walks over and greets the five kits happily, going along with the plan. Sagepool sits on the side and watches the kits with a purr.

I'm sorry you will never know your real parents, but I know for sure Ivyleaf and Frostpath will take good care of the three of you. I can't wait to watch all five of you to grow into strong warriors. Sagepool thinks.

Chapter 38

It is now time for the gathering. Ashstar picked Mistystorm, Bearclaw, Daisybloom, Graycloud, Thornpelt, Sootwhisker, Applebranch, and Doveflight to go along with her, Swiftfang, Cloudheart, and Sagepool. The group that is going to the gathering crosses the log bridge together, very well prepared to battle SkyClan cats and rogues.

"Mistystorm and Bearclaw, since you two found out about the plan, you two should be the ones to announce it to the clans." Ashstar meows as they cross.

"Okay." The two mates reply in unison. Once ShadowClan arrives on the island, they realize that the other three clans are already there, chatting like normal. They have no idea what's about to hit them.

Mistystorm watches as Ashstar leaps onto a branch and then gets the other clans' attention.

"May I have everyone's attention please!" Ashstar yowls. Then, every cat looks over at the gray-furred leader.

"What's the matter, Ashstar?" Cloverstar, RiverClan's leader, asks.

"Two of our warriors, Mistystorm and Bearclaw, have something very important to announce." Ashstar replies, looking over at the two warriors. Then, every cat's eyes are on the two of them. Mistystorm realizes that Bearclaw has gotten a little shy, so she speaks up.

"SkyClan and some rogues will be attacking us tonight." Mistystorm announces. A few gasps and chatting can be heard from the clans. "Bearclaw and I overheard their plan. They will attack once the gathering starts, so we must make sure we are prepared for their attack. We should act normally until they do." She meows.

"You have two great warriors in your paws, Ashstar." ThunderClan's leader, Briarstar, meows.

"Thank you." Ashstar replies. "As Mistystorm said, I think we should go on like normal until they attack. But, we must be prepared to fight back at any moment. We have no idea exactly when they will attack, we just know that it will be as the gathering is going on." She meows.

"Let's go on with it then. Ashstar, what's going on in ShadowClan?" Mudstar, WindClan's leader, asks.

"Prey is plentiful in ShadowClan. Also, we have two new warriors, Doveflight and Sootwhisker, as well as the birth of five new kits. ShadowClan is doing very well." Ashstar meows.

"That's good to hear." Mudstar replies. Right after his sentence, loud yowls can be heard on the island. Mistystorm looks around in fear, wondering what to do. She notices a vulnerable rogue out in the open, so she leaps for him, knocking him to the ground and successfully pinning him.

"Surprise! We knew of the plans all along." Mistystorm meows happily, scratching her claws against the tom's chest and belly. The tom yowls in pain, Mistystorm releases him, and he quickly dashes away.

SkyClan and some rogues cannot win against the power of ShadowClan, ThunderClan, WindClan, and RiverClan! Mistystorm thinks.

Mistystorm looks around her for another cat to attack and to see how the clans are doing. Despite outnumbering SkyClan and the rogues, some of the cats are struggling.

They must have been preparing for this for moons. Mistystorm thinks.

She then spots one of the things she was hoping not to see. Graycloud's lifeless body laying bloody on the ground. Mistystorm lets out a wail and rushes over. She quickly nudges the gray she-cat.

"Graycloud! Wake up!" Mistystorm wails. "You were one of the only cats who accepted me when I joined ShadowClan. You took care of

me and nurtured me. Please, you can't leave me.." She meows.

"I'm afraid she's gone, Mistystorm." Swiftfang meows to the warrior. "Try not to think about it until after this though, young one. We have a battle to win." He meows. Mistystorm replies with a nod and looks around her for a cat to attack. Suddenly, she watches as Blacktail leaps right for Swiftfang.

"Back off, Blacktail!" Mistystorm meows angrily, leaping for Blacktail right as he leaps for Swiftfang. However, Mistystorm misses and hits the hard ground. Blacktail successfully knocks the old tom down to the ground.

"You are not my father. You're just like any ordinary cat in power to me." Mistystorm hears Blacktail meow. "You brought me into this world, but now I'm going to take you out. You should've retired by now." He meows. Mistystorm gets up so she can interfere, but she is too late. Once she gets up and turns around, she spots Blacktail biting Swiftfang's neck into the life in the old deputy's eyes fade.

"No! Swiftfang!" Mistystorm yowls. She gives Swiftfang a cold and angry gaze. "You're going to pay for this, you hear me? You killed your own father!" She hisses.

"And? Does it look like I care?" Blacktail replies. Mistystorm leaps for the black tom, knocking him down. Unable to control her rage, she does the same exact thing Blacktail did to Swiftfang. The gray she-cat bites her ex-clanmate's neck until he goes limp. It wasn't until afterwards when she realized what she had done.

Oh no! Warriors don't kill to win! Mistystorm thinks. She then looks around herself with wide eyes. She realizes that most of the SkyClan cats are gone. She notices Foxstar's lifeless body.

Looks like someone killed the other evil cat as well. Mistystorm thinks. She then watches as the final cat, a rogue, quickly dashes off.

Most of them must've gave up once Foxstar was killed. Mistystorm thinks. Loud cheers come from the winning four clans. They have won, all thanks to Bearclaw and herself.

"We do have quite an amount of cats that we have lost in the battle from all four clans, but we still won. I know it wouldn't be that way if it wasn't for Mistystorm and Bearclaw." Ashstar says to all of the other cats. "We are very sad about the cats that were lost, but we should focus on the good times with them and their sacrifice and bravery." She meows. "ShadowClan seems to have lost a brave warrior and our deputy, Swiftfang." She meows. Suddenly, SkyClan's deputy appears with the other clans. Every cat has an angry gaze on him, not knowing what he will do.

"I promise I will be a good leader to SkyClan and I will repair SkyClan from the mistakes Foxstar has made." The deputy, Badgerscar meows.

"Thank you, Badgerscar. We appreciate it." Briarstar meows. "I had to deal with a similar thing. I know you will do well." He meows. Mistystorm then watches as the black-and-white tom quickly dashes towards the log bridge.

"Which cats have the other clans lost?" Ashstar asks, looking over at the other leaders.

"ThunderClan has lost Oakbranch and Lionpounce. We honor them. They were great warriors." Briarstar meows.

"WindClan has lost Sunflame, Stagdust, and Quickstep. We are very saddened by their loss." Mudstar announces. "And RiverClan?" He asks.

"RiverClan has lost our deputy, Minnowfur, as well as Stonefoot. We will miss them greatly." Cloverstar meows. "Let's all head back to our camps. Many cats are injured and need immediate attention." He adds. Every cat agrees and they all head back to their camps, proud of their victory.

Chapter 39 (Epilogue)

It is now almost moonhigh. It is time for Ashstar to choose her new deputy. The clan has been grieving over the deaths of Swiftfang and Graycloud. But, now it's time for something much more positive in ShadowClan. Bearclaw watches as Ashstar leaps onto the high branch.

"Let all cats old enough to catch their own prey join here beneath the high branch for a meeting!" Ashstar yowls. The clan then gathers around the high branch.

"During the battle at the gathering, we sadly lost our brave, loyal, and strong deputy, Swiftfang. Now, as my duty as the leader of ShadowClan, I must choose a deputy before moonhigh." She meows. "After a lot of thought, I have decided on who should be ShadowClan's new deputy." She tells the clan. "I say these words before StarClan, so that the spirits of our warrior ancestors may hear and approve of my choice. The new deputy of ShadowClan is Daisybloom. Daisybloom, you are a strong, loyal, kind, and brave warrior of ShadowClan. You always watch over ShadowClan's well-being and you would be the best fit for the role of ShadowClan's deputy. You are a cat I can trust to be a great leader of ShadowClan if something were to happen to me." Ashstar meows. The clan cheers and congratulates Daisybloom.

"I honestly wasn't expecting this.. thank you so much, Ashstar." Daisybloom meows to her leader.

"You deserve it, Daisybloom." Ashstar meows. "The clan meeting is now dismissed." She then meows.

"Wait, can I announce something real quick?" Mistystorm asks.

"Of course, go ahead." Ashstar replies.

"I'm expecting Bearclaw's kits and I will be moving into the nursery." Mistystorm announces. The clan is very cheerful and congratulates Mistystorm. Bearclaw looks over at his mate in shock. He is quite upset.

"Mistystorm... you battled while expecting kits? That's not good for you or them and you know that!" Bearclaw meows.

"I didn't want to miss out on the battle. We're the ones who spied on SkyClan and the rogues, after all." Mistystorm replies.

"But... what if something happened?" Bearclaw meows.

"Calm down, Bearclaw." Sagepool meows. "She's not very far along and she and the kits fine now, so there's no reason to be upset about it now." She meows to her brother. "Be happy, you're going to be a father now."

"You're right, Sagepool. You're always right." Bearclaw replies, flattening his ears.

"I know." Sagepool replies with a purr of amusement.

Bearclaw licks Mistystorm's forehead.

With both our kits and Ivyleaf and Frostpath's kits, this will be a new era for ShadowClan. It will be a good one. I just know it. Thank you, StarClan, for everything. Bearclaw thinks.

The End